

*very scarce* A 28 9  
QVIP FOR  
AN VPSTART  
COURTIER:

O R,  
A quaint dispute betweene Veluet  
breeches and Cloth Breeches.

*Wherein is plainly set downe the disorders in all  
Estates and Trades.*



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TO THE RIGHT  
VVORSHIPFVLL, THOMAS

BVRNABY *Esquire*; ROBERT

GREENE wisheth hearts-ease, and  
heauens blisse.



'R, after I had ended this Quipp for an  
Vpstart Courtier, containing a quaint dis-  
pute betweene Cloth Breeches, and Veluet  
Breeches; wherein vnder a dreame I  
shaddowed the abuses that Pride had bred  
in England, how it had infected the Court with aspiring  
Enuy, the Citie with griping Couetousnesse, and the Coun-  
trei with contempt and disdaine: How since men placed  
their delights in proud lookes, and braue attire, Hospita-  
litie was left off, Neighbourhood was exiled, Conscience  
was scoft at, and Charitie lay frozen in the streets: How  
vpstart Gentlemen for the maintenance of that their fa-  
thers neuer lookt after, raised Rents, rackt their Tenants,  
and imposed great Fines, I stood in amaze to whom I


## The Epistle Dedicatory.

*should dedicate my Labours; knowing I should bee bitten by many, since I have toucht many, and therefore neede some worthy Patron, vnder whose wings I might shroude my selfe from goodman find-fault. At last, I cal'd to mind your Worship, and thought you the fittest of all my friends, both for the duty that I owe, and the worshipfull qualities you are indued withall; as also for that all Northhamptonshire reports, how you are a father of the Poore, a supporter of ancient Hospitality, an enemy to Pride; and to bee short, a maintainer of Cloth breeches (I meane, of the olde and worthy customes of the Gentilitie, and Yeomanry of England.) Induced by these reasons; I humbly present this Pamphlet to your Worship, onely crauing, you will accept it as courteously, as I present it dutifully, and then I haue the end of my desire: and so resting in hope of your favourable acceptance, I humbly take my leaue.*

Your dutifull adopted sonne,

ROBERT GREENE.





# TO THE GENTLEMEN

*Readers, Health.*



Entle Gentlemen, I hope, Cloth-breeches shall find your gentle Censures of this homely Apologic of his ancient Prerogatiues, sith though hee speakes against Veluet Breeches which you weare ; yet hee twits not the Weed, but the vice ; not the apparell when 'tis worthily worne, but the vnworthy person that weares it ; who sprang of a Pefant, will vse any sinister meanes to clime to preferment ; beeing then so proud, as the foppe forgets, like the Asse, that a Mule was his Father. For ancient Gentilitie, and Yeomanry, Cloth-breeches attempteth this quarrell, and hopes of their fauour. For Vpstarts hee is halfe carelesse ; and the more, because hee knowes whatsoeuer some thinke priuately, they will bee no publike Carpers : lest by kicking where they are toucht, they bewray their gall'd backes to the world ; and by starting vp to finde fault, prooue themselues vpstarts, and fooles. So then poore Cloth-breeches setteth downe his rest on the  
cour-

*To the Gentlemen Readers, health.*

courtesie of gentle Gentlemen, and bold Yeomen, that they will suffer him to take no wrong. But suppose the worst, that he should be frown'd at, and that such Occupations as hee hath vpon conscience discarded from the Iurie, should commence an action of vnkindnesse against him, hee'l proue it not to hold plea; because all the debate was but a dreame. And so hoping all men will merrily take it, hee stands solemnely leaning on his Pike-staffe, till hee heare what you conceiue of him, for beeing so peremptorie. If well, hee sweares to cracke his hose at the knees to quite your courtesie. If hardly, hee hath vowed that whatsoeuer hee dreames, neuer to blabbe it againe, and so he wisheth mee humbly to bidde you farewell.



A  
QVIP FOR AN VP-  
START COVRTIER.



I was in at that time when the Cuckolds Quir-  
ster began to bewray April Gentlemen, with his  
neuer changed notes, that I damped with a melan-  
choly humour went into the fields to cheere by my  
walk with the fresh ayre: where solitary seeking  
to please my selfe, I fell in a dzeame, and in that  
drowsie slumber, I wandered into a vale all tap-

pered with sweet & choise flowers, there grew many simples, whose  
vertues taught men to be subtile, and to thinke nature by her weeds  
warn'd men to be wary, and by their secret properties to check wan-  
ton and sensuall imperfections. Amongst the rest, there was the yel-  
low Daffadil, a flower fit for zealous Dottrills, who through the beau-  
ty of their honest wines grow suspitious, and so prone themselves in  
the end Cuckold Heretikes: there budded out the checker'd (Pansie)  
or partly-coloured Harts-case, an herbe seltsome scene, either of such  
men as are wedded to shewes, or of such women that haue hasty hus-  
bands. yet there it grew, as I kept to gather it, it slip from me like  
Tantalus fruit & failes their Master. At last, wondering at this secret  
qualitie, I learned that none can weare it, be they Kings, but such as  
desire no more then they are boyne to, ney haue their wishes aboue  
their fortunes. Upon a banke boyding by, grew womens weeds, Pe-  
nell, I meane for flatterers, fit generally for that were, with while they  
are maidens, they with wantonly: while they are wiues, they will  
wil-

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willfully, while they are wisdomes, they would willingly: and yet all these proud desires, are but close dissemblings. Here aduoyning spouted out the Courtiers comfort, Time: An herb that many stumble on, and yet ouerslip, whose ranke saour and thicke leanes haue this peculiar property, to make a snaille if the taste of the sap, as swift as a swallow; yet toynd with this prejudice, that if shee clime too hastily, shee falls too suddenly. We thought I saw diuers pong Courtiers tread vpon it with high disdain; but as they pass away, an Adder lurking there, bit them by the heeles that they wept: and then I might perceiue certaine Clownes in clowted shoone gather it, and eate of it with greedinesse: which no sooner was sunke into their maters, but they were metamorphosed, and lookt as proudly, though Peasants, as if they had been bozne to be Princes companions.

Amongst the rest of these changelings whom the taste of time had thus altered, there were some that lifted their heads so hye, as if they had been bzed to looke no lower then Stars: they thought Noli altum sapere was rather the saying of a foole, then the censure of a Philosopher, and therefore stretch themselves on their tiptoes, as if they had been a kindred to the Lord Tiptoft, and began to disdain their equals, scoorne their inferiours, and euen their betters, forgetting now that time had taught them to say Passe: how befoze they had playde the Clarks part to say Amen to the Priest. Tush, then they were not so little as Gentlemen, and their owne conceit was, the Herald to blazon their discent, from an old house, whose great Grandfathers would haue been glad of a new Cottage to hide their heads in. Yet as the Peacock waxynt in the pryde of his beauteous feathers, is knowne to be but a dunghill bird by his foule secte: so though the high lookes, and costly sutes, argue to the eyes of the world they were Cavaliers of great Wealth: yet the churlish illiberalitie of their mindes, bewaid their fathers were not aboue thre pounds in the Kings booke at a Subside: but as these vpsart changelings went strouting like Philopolimorchides the buggart in Plautus, they lookt so proudly at the same, that theyumbled on a bed of Rue, that grew at the bottom of the Banke where the Time was planted, which fall vpon the dew of so bitter an herbe, taught them, that such proud Peacocks as curbaistly out-runne their fortunes, at last too speedily fall to repentance, and yet some of them smild and said, Rue was called Herbe-grace, which

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which though they scozned in their youth, they might weare in their age, and it was neuer too late to say Misereere. As thus I stood musing at this time-boz n bood, they banisht away like Cadmus copesimates, that spzang bp of Wipers teeth: so that casting mine eye aside after them, I saw where a crue of all estates were gathering flowers, what kind they were of I knew not: but pzecious I gesse them, in that they pluckt them with greedinesse: so that I bzew towards them to be partaker of their pzofits: comming neerer, I might see the weedc they so wzangled for, was a little dapper flower, like a ground Hinnisuckle, called Thyst, pzaised generally of all, but pzactised for distillation but of few: amongst the crue that seemed couetous of this herb, there was a troope of old grapbeards in Veluet, Battin, & Woolsted iackets, that stooped as nimble to plucke it bp by the roots, as if their ioynts had bene suppled in the oyle of Wipers skins: they spared no labour and paines to get and gather, and what they got, they gaue to certaine young boyes and girles that stood behinde them, with their skirts and laps open to receiue it: among whom some scattered it as fast as their fathers gathered it, wasting and spoyling it at their pleasure, which their fathers got with labour.

I thought them to be some Verbalists, or some Apothecaries, that had imployed such paines to extract some rare quintessence out of this flower: but one standing by, told me they were Cozmozants & dsurers that gathered it to fill their coffers with. And whereto (quoth I) is it pzecious: what is the vertue of it: Mary (qd. he) to qualifie the heats of insatiable minds; that like the serpent Dipsas neuer dzinketh enough, till they are so full, they burst. Why then, said I, the Diuell burst them all: & with that I fell into a great laughter, to see certaine Italianate Canters, dumozons Caualliers, youthfull Gentlemen, and Inamorati gagliardi, that scoznesfully pluckt of it, and woze it a while, as if they were weary of it, & at last left it as too base a flower to put in their Nosegayes. Others that seemed Homini di grand aithma by their lookes & their walks, gathered earnestly, and did pocket it bp, as if they meant to keep it carefully: but as they were carrying it away, there met them a troope of nice wantons, faire women, that like to Lamix had faces like Angels, eyes like stars, bzests like the golden front in the Hesperides: but from the middle downwards their shapcs like serpents. These with Dyzen-like allurements so enticed

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tised these quaint Equires, that they bestowed all their flowers vpon them for fauours, they themselves walking home by beggers bush for a penance. Amongst this crew were Lampers, and they gathered the Duell and all; but poore Ports were thrust backe, and could not be suffered to haue one handfull to put amongst their withered garlands of Bayes, to make them glorious. But Hob and Iohn of the countrey they slept in churlishly, in their high Starches, and gathered whole sackbolls: insomuch they wore breeches of Thurst in their Hats like for-horses, or the lusty Gallants in a Quoit-dance: seeing the crew thus to wangle for to palpe a Weed, I went alone to take one of all the other fragrant flowers that diaped this valley; there by, I saw the Bachelors buttons, whose vertue is to make wanton maydens weepe, when they haue woyn it for tweweekes vnder their appons for a fauour.

Next them grew the dissembling Daisie, to warne such light of lous wenches, not to trust euery faire promise that such amorous Bachelors make them: but sweet smells breed bitter repentance. Hard by grew the true louers primrose, whose kind saour wiseth men to be faithfull, and women courteous. Alongst in a border grew Maiden-haire, fit for modest matrons to behold; and immodest to blush at, because it praiseth the one for their naturall Tresses, and condemneth the other for their beaustie and counterfeited Perriwigs: there was the gentle Gillsflower, that wiues should weare, if they were not too forward; and loyall Lauender, but that was full of Cuckow-spittes, to shew, y<sup>e</sup> womens light thoughts make their husbands heavy heads: there were sweet Lillies Gods plenty; which shewed, faire Virgins need not waite for lovers; & Rose of Balme which could cure strange wounds; onely not that wound which women receiue when they lose their maidenheads: for no herb hath vertue enough to scrape out that blot, and therefore it is the greater blemish. I might were the flowers beside that beautified the valley, that to know their names and operations, I needed some curious herball, but I passe them over as needlesse, with the vision of their vertues was but a dreame, and therefore I wish no man to hold any discourse herein authentickall: yet thus much I must say for a parting blow, that at the lower end of the dale I saw a great many of women bring high words to their husbands, some struing for the Beeches, other, to haue the last word, some fretting,

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thing, they could not find a knot in a rush, others striding whether it  
 were wooll or haire the Goat bare: questioning with one that I met,  
 why these women were so cholericke; hee like a crossing fellow poin-  
 ted to a bush of Nettles, & not willing to be satisfied by signes, asked  
 him what he meant thereby. Mary (quoth he) all these women that  
 you heere brawling, scolding, and scolding thus, haue generally pist  
 on this bush of Nettles, and the vertue of them is to force a woman  
 that waters them, to be as peeuish for a whole day, and as waspish as  
 if she had beene stung in the brow with a hornet. Well, I smile at  
 this, and left the company to seeke further, when in the twinkling of  
 an eye I was left alone. the valley cleared of all company, and I a di-  
 stressed man, desirous to wander out of that solitary place to seeke  
 good comforts, and boone companions to passe away the day withall.  
 And thus I walked forward, seeking vp the hill, I was diuened halfe  
 into a maze with the imagination of a strange wonder which fell  
 out thus: I thought I saw an vnconth headlesse thing come pa-  
 cing downe the hill, stepping so proudly with such a Geometrical  
 grace, as if some artificiall bzaggert had resolved to measure the  
 world with his paces: I could not descry it to be a man, although it  
 had motion, for that it wanted a body; yet seeing legges and hose, I  
 supposed it to be some monster nourisht by in those desarts: at last  
 as it drew moze nigh vnto mee, I might perceiue that it was a bery  
 passing costly paire of Velvet-breeches, whose panes beeing made  
 of the chiefeest Neapolitane-stoffe, was dyed one with the best  
 Spanish Battin, and marvellous curiously ouer-whipt with gold  
 twill, interseamed with knots of Pearle: the Netherstocke was of  
 the purest Granado silke; no cost was spared to set out these costly  
 Breeches, who had girt vnto them a Rapier and Dagger gilt, point  
 pendant, as quaintly as if some curious Florentine had trickt them  
 by, to square it by and downe the Streets befoze his mistress. As  
 these Breeches were exceeding sumptuous to the eye, so were they  
 passing pious in their gestures; for they strouted by and downe  
 the Valley as proudly, as though they had there appointed to ad some  
 desperate combate.

Blame me not if I were diuened into a muse with this most mon-  
 strous sight, to see in that place such a strange headlesse Courtier set-  
 ting by and downe like the Master of a Fence-schoole about to play



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his Prize, when I came neuer in any age such a wonderfull object  
 fortun'd vnto any man before. Well, the greater dumpe this Honel-  
 ty brake me into, the more desire I had to see what euent would fol-  
 low: wherupon looking about to see if that any more company would  
 come, I might perceiue from the top of the other hill, another paire of  
 Breeches more soberly marching, and with a softer pace, as if they  
 were not too haſtic, and yet would keepe promise neuertheleſſe at the  
 place appointed. As ſoone as they were come into the valley, I ſaw  
 they were a plaine paire of Cloth-breeches, without either welt or  
 gird, ſtreight to the thigh, of white Kerſie, without a ſlop, the nether  
 ſtocke of the ſame, ſewed to about the knee, and onely ſeamed with a  
 little country blue, ſuch as in Dicbus illis our great Grandfathers  
 wore, when neighbourhood and hoſpitality had baniſht Pride out of  
 England. ſo were theſe plaine Breeches weaponleſſe; ſo they had a  
 good ſwye Wat with a Pike in the end, able to lay on load enough, if  
 the heart were answerable to the weapon, and vpon this ſtaffe pitcht  
 downe vpon the ground, Cloth-breeches ſtood ſolemnly leaning, as if  
 they meant not to ſtart, but to anſwere to the bittermoſt whatſoener  
 in that place might be objected. Looking vpon theſe two, I might per-  
 ceiue by the pride of the one, and humble reſolution of the other, that  
 this their meeting would grow to ſome dangerous conſlict: and there-  
 fore to prevent the ſatall iſſue of ſuch a pretended quarrell, I kept be-  
 twene the both, when Velvet-breeches greeted Cloth-breeches with  
 this ſalutation: Wound & insolent Deſant, how dareſt thou without  
 leave, or low reuerence, preſſe into the place whither I am come ſo  
 to diſpoſt my ſelfe? Art thou not afraid, thy high preſumption ſhould  
 ſummon me to diſpleaſure, and ſo force me to draw my Rapier, which is  
 neuer unſheathed, but it turnes into the ſcabberd with a triumph of  
 mine enemies blood? Bold bayard, auaunt, beard me not to my face;  
 ſo this time I pardon thy folly, and grant thy legges leave to carrie  
 away thy life. Cloth-breeches nothing amazed at this brauado, bend-  
 ing his ſtaffe, as if he meant (if he were wronged) to beſtow his be-  
 niſon, with a ſcornfull kind of ſmiling, made this ſmooth reply: Wary  
 gip, goodman vppſtart, who made your father a Gentleman? ſoft fire  
 makes ſweet mault, the curſteſt Cow hath the ſhorteſt hoznes, and a  
 bawling curre, of all bites the leaſt: alas, good Sir, are you ſo fine that  
 no man may be your fellow? I pray you, what difference is betweene  
 you



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you and me, but in the cost and the making? though you bee neuer so richly dandied with Gold, and powdered with Pearle, yet you are but a case for the Buttocks, and a couer for the basest part of a mans body no more then I, the greatest preeminence is in the garnishing, and thereof you are proud, but come to the true vse we were appointed to, my honour is more then thine, for I belong to the old ancient peomanity, yea, and gentility, the fathers, and then to a company of proud and unmannerly vpstarts the sonnes. At this, Velvet-breeches stoyn'd and said, Why, thou beggars that, descended from the reuerſion of base pouerty, is thy insolency so great, to make comparison with me, whose difference is as great as the brightnesse of the sunne, and the slender light of a candle? I (poore snake) am sprung from the ancient Romans, born in Italy, the mistress of the world for chivalry, cald into England from my native home. (where I was famous) to honour your country and yong Gentlemen here in England with my countenance, where I am holden in high regard, that I can presse into the presence, when thou poore soule shalt with cap and knee beg leaue of the Porter to enter: and I sit & dine with the Nobility, when thou art faine to wait for the reuerſion of the Almes basket: I am admitted boldly to tell my tale, when thou art faine to sue by means of supplication, and that & thou to, so little regarded, that most commonly it neuer comes to the Princes hand, but dies imprisoned in some obscure pocket: With then there is such difference between our estates, cease to bge my patience with thy insolent presumption. Cloth breeches as brieſe as he was proud, swoze by the pike of his staffe, that his choplogicke was not worth a pin, and that hee would turne his own weapon into his bosome thus: Why Signior Glorioso (qd. he) though I haue not such glossing phrase to trick out my speeches withall as you, yet I will come ouer your fallowes with this bad Rhe-thoricke: I pray you Monsieur Palapert, are you therefore my superiour, because you are taken vp with Gentlemen, & I with the peomanry? Both true vertue consist in riches, or humanitie in wealth? is ancient honour tied to outward bzanery? or not rather true Nobilitie, a minde excellently qualified with rare vertues? I will teach thee a lesson worth the bearing, proud pincocks, how Gentilitie first sprung vp, I will not forget the old wiues Logicks, When Adam delu'd and Eue span, who was then a Gentleman? but I tell thee, after the

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the generall floud, that there was no moze men vpon the earth but Noe and his thre sonnes, and that Cham had wickedly discovered his fathers secrets, then grew the diuision of estates thus: The Church was figured in Sem, Gentility in Iapheth, and labour and dzydgerie in Cham: Sem being chaste and holy, Iapheth learned and valiant, Cham churlish and seruite, yet did not the curse extend so farre vpon Cham, no; the blessing vpon Iapheth; but if the one altered his nature, and became either indoned with learning or valour, he might bee a Gentleman, or if the other degenerated from his ancient vertues, hee might be held a Peasant: wherevpon Noe inferred that Gentility grew not onely by propagation of nature, but by perfection of qualities. Then is your worship wide that boast of your worth for your gold, & pearle, sith Cucullus non facit Monachum, no; a Weluett stop makes a slouen a Gentleman: And whereas thou saist thou wert bozne in Italy, and called hither by our Courtiers, him may we curse that brought thee first into England: for thou camest not alone, but accompanied with a multitude of abominable vices, hanging to thy bumbeast nothing but infectious abuses, as baine-glozz, selfeloue, Sodomy, and strange poisonings, wherewith thou hast infected this glorious Island: yea insolent bzaggart, thou hast defiled thine owne nest, and fatall was the day of thy birth: for since the time of thy hatching in Italy, as then famous for Chivalry and Learning, the imperiall state thzough thy pride hath decayed, and thou hast like the pong Bellican peckt at thy mothers bzest with thy presumption, causing them to lose that their sozefathers with true honour conquered: so hast thou beene the ruine of the Romane Empire, and now fatally art thou come into Eng'land to attempt heere the like subuersion. Whereas thou dost boast that I am little regarded, where thou art highly accounted of, and hast sufferance to pzeesse into the pzeence, when I am for my simplicitie shot out of dooze: I grant thy allocation in part, but not in whole, for men of high wisdome and honour measure not men by the outward shew of bzanery, but by the inward worth and honesty: and so though I am disoaind of a few overweening fooles, I am valued as well as thy selfe with the wise. In that thou sayst thou canst speake when I sue by supplication: I grant it, but the tale thou tell'st, is to the ruine of the pooze: for coming into high fauour with an impudent face, what farme is there ex-  
red,

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red, whose Leas thou dost not begge : what sozest of penall Sta-  
 tutes : what concealed Lands can ouer-slip thee : yea rather then  
 thy bzauerie should faile, begge potwling pence soz the very smoke  
 that comes out of poozemens chimneys : shamest thou not, outland-  
 ish Vpstart, to heare me discourse thy imperfections : get thee home  
 againe into thy owne countrey, and let mee as I was wont. lins sa-  
 nious in my native home in England where I was boyne and bred,  
 yea, and bearded Caesar thy countryman, till he compass the conquest  
 by Treason. The right and Title in this country, base bzat (quoth  
 Weluet Bzeeches ?) now anthozitie fauours me, I am admitted vice-  
 roy, and I will make thee doe me homage, and confesse that thou holdest  
 thy being and residence in my Land, from the gracious fauour of my  
 sufferance : and with that he laid hold on the hilt of his Rapier, and  
 Cloth Bzeeches betooke him to his Staffe, when I stepping betwixt  
 them parted them thus. Why, what meane ye ? will you decide your  
 Controuersie by blowes, when you may debate it by reason ? this is  
 a Land of peace, gouerned by true iudicialies, and honourable Ma-  
 gistrates, where you shall haue equity without partialitie : and ther-  
 fore listen to mee, and discusse the matter by law : your quarrell is,  
 whether of you are most ancient, and most worthy. You Sir, boast  
 of your Countrey and Parentage ; he of his native birth in England :  
 you claime all, hee would haue but his owne, both plead an absolute  
 Title of residence in this Countrey : then must the course betweens  
 you be trespassse of disseison, frank tenement : you Weluet bzeeches of  
 in that you claime the first Title, you shall bee plaintiffe, and plead  
 a trespassse or disseison done you by Cloth Bzeeches, so shall it bee  
 brought to a Jury, and tryed by a verdict of twelue, or foure and  
 twenty. Cuth, cuth, quoth Weluet Bzeeches, I neither like to bee  
 Plaintiffe, nor yet allow of a Jury. soz they may bee partiall, and so  
 condemne mee in mine owne action : soz the country Swaines can-  
 not value of my worth, nor can mine Honours come within the  
 compasse of their base wits : because I am a stranger in this Land,  
 and but heere lately arrived, they will hold me as an Vpstart, and so  
 lightly esteeme of my worthinesse : and soz my Aduersarie is their  
 countryman, and lesse chargeable, he shall haue the Law mitigated,  
 If a Jury of Vinds or Defants should bee impanelled : if ancient  
 Gentlemen, Peomen, or plains Spiniffers should be of the Quert, I

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were sure to lose the day, because they loath me, in that I haue per-  
straded so many Landlozds, for the maintenance of my byauerie, to  
raise their rents. You seeke a knot in a Rush (quoth I) you need not  
doubt of that: for whom you distrust, and thinke not indifferent, him  
you vpon cause manifested, challenges from your Jury. If your late  
allowe such large fauour (quoth Welnet breeches) I am content my  
Title be tryed by a Jury: and therefore let mine Adversarie plead  
me, Nul tort, Nul disseisin, so Cloth breeches was content with this,  
and so they both agreed I should be iudge, and Jury: in this Contro-  
uersie: whereupon I wisht them to say for themselves what they  
could, that I might discourse to the Jury, what reasons they alledged  
of their Titles: then Welnet breeches beganne thus: I cannot but  
griene that I should be thus outface'd with a Carters weed, onely for  
for husbandry, seeing I am the originall of all honourable endowments.  
To what end both youth bestow their wits on Law, Physicke, or  
Theologie, were it not the end they aime at, is the wearing of mee,  
and winning of preferment? Honour nourisheth Art, and for the re-  
gard of dignitie, does learned men strine to exceed in their facultie.

*Impiger extremos currit Mercator ad Indos,  
Per mare, per saxa, &c.*

What bynes the Merchants to seeke forraine Parts, to venter  
their goods and hazard their liues? not, if still the end of their tra-  
uell were a paire of Cloth breeches: no, Welnet, costly attire, curious  
and quaint apparell, is the spur that picks them forward to attempt  
such danger. Doth not the Worldly sight to be haue? the Law-  
yer study to countenance himselfe with cost: the Artificer takes  
paines onely for my sake, that wearing mee, hee may bragge it as  
mongst the best. What credit carries hee now awayes that goes pind  
by in a Cloth breech? who will keepe him company that thinks well  
of himselfe, vnlesse he vse the simple stau to make cleane his shoue?  
The world is chang'd, and men are growne to moze wit, and their  
minds to aspire after moze honorable thoughts: they were Dunces  
in *Diebus illis*, they had not the true vse of Gentilitie, and therefore  
they liued meanelly, and died obscurely: but now mens capacities  
are refined, time hath set a new edge on Gentlemens humors, and  
they shew them as they should be, not like gluttons, as their fathers  
did,

## an Vpstart Courtier.

did, in chimes of Booke, and almes to the poore: but in Velvetts, Satins, Cloth of gold, Pearle, yea, pearle Lace, which scarce Caligula wore on his birth-day: & to this honourable humour haue I brought these Gentlemen since I came from Italy. What is the end of seruice to a man, but to countenance himselfe, and credit his master with hys suites: the scurvie Taplers and Officers, for populi, all pots, and rubbe horse-heeles, to pzanke themselves with my gloyp: alas, were it not to weare me, why should so many apply themselves to extraordinary idlenesse? Beside, I make fooles bee reuerenc'd, and thought wise among the common sort: I am a seuerer censor to such as offend the law; psonibed, there be a penalty annex't, that may bring in some profit: yea, by me, the chiefeest part of this Realme is gouerned, and therefore I refer my Title to the verdit of any men of iudgement. To this mildly Cloth-breeches answered thus:

As I haue had alwayes that honest humour in mee, to measure all estates by their Vertues, not by their Apparell: so did I neuer grudge at the haunery of any, whom birth, time, place, or dignitie made worthy of such costly ornaments: but if by the fauour of their Prince, and their owne deserts, they merited them, I held both laudfull, and commendable, to answer their degrees in apparell, corresponding vnto their dignities: I am not so precise, directly to inueigh against the vse of Velvet, either in breeches, or in other suites, nor will I haue men goe like Iohn Baptist, in coates of Camels haire. Let Princes haue their Diademes, and Caesar what is due to Caesar: Let Noblemen goe as their birthes require, and Gentlemen as they are borne, or beare office: I speake in mine owne defence, for the ancient Gentilitie, and Provanry of England, and inueigh against none, but such malapert Vpstarts, as raised vp from the Plough, or aduanced for their Italian deuices, or for their witlesse wealth, couet in haunery to match, nay, to exceed the greatest Noblemen in this Land.

But leaving this digression, Monsieur Velvet-breeches, againe to the particulars of your fond allegation. Whereas you affirme your selfe to be both originall and small end of Learning: alas, proud prince, you perch a bow too high; did all the Philosophers beat their braines, and busse their wits to weare Velvet Breeches: Alas, both at that time thou wert vnknowne, yea vnborne, and all excess in

## A Quip for

apparell had in high contempt, and now in these dayes, all men of worth are taught by reading, that Excesse is a great sinne: that Pride is the first stepp to the downefall of shame. They study with Tully, that they may seeme bozne for their Countries, as well as for themselves: The Divine to iustice, the Physitian to discover the secrets of Gods wonders, by working strange cures: to be by these, the end of all being, as to know God, and not as your Worship, good master Helvet-breeches wisseth, to creepe into acquaintance.

I will not deny, but there be as fantasticall fooles as your selfe, that perhaps are puffed up with such presuming thoughts, and ambitionly aime to trucke themselves in your Worships masking Sutes: but while such climbe for great honours, they often fall to great shames. It may bee, thereupon you bring in Honos alit artes: but I gesse your Passerhip neuer tryed what true honour meant, that trusse it up within the compasse of a paire of Helvet breeches, and place it in the arrogancie of the heart: no, no: say honour is idolatry, for they make fooles of themselves, and Fools of their carcases: but hee that valueth Honour so, shall reade a Lecture out of Apuleius his golden Ass, to learne him more wit. But now Sir, by your leave, a blow with your next Argument, which is, that Merchants hazard their goods and liues to bee acquainted with your Passerhip. Indeed you are alway: for wise men frequent Parts for profit, not for pride, vnlesse it be some that by wearing of Helvet breeches and apparell too high for their calling, haue poodned Bankrupts in their youth, and haue beene glad in their age to desire my acquaintance, and to trusse up their taples in home-spunne Russet: whereas thou dost object the valour of hardy Souldiers to grow for the desire of byaue apparell. This is false, and I know if any were present, they would prone vpon thy bones that thou wert a lyer: for their countreyes good, their Princes seruice, the defence of their friends, the hope of fauour is the finall end of their resolutions: rascening not onely them by the worlds glozy, fickle, transitorie, and inconstant. Shall I fetch from thine owne Countrey, weapons to wound thy selfe withall: What sayest thou to Cincinnatus? was he not called to be Dictator from the plough, and after many victories: what did hee do and downe the Court in costly Garments, and Helvet breeches? No, hee despised dignity, contemned vaine-glozy and pride,

and



## an Vpstart Courtier.

and returned againe to his quiet contented life in the country. How much did Caius Fabritius value their Numa Pompilius Sceuola, Scipio, Epaminondas, Aristides? they held themselves too good meat, & counted pride vanitie, and yet thou art not ashamed to say, thou art the end of Souldiers worthy honour. I tell thee, sallowe Skip-lacks, it was as good and blessed a time here in England, when King Stephen wore a paire of cloth Breeches of a noble paire, and thought them passing costly; then did he count Westminster-Hall too little to be his dining Chamber, and his almes was not bare bones, in stead of broken meate, but luscious Chines of Beefe fell into the poore mens Basket. When Charity flourished in the Court, and young Courtiers strove to exceed one another in vertue, not in braveries: they rode not with fannes to ward their faces from the winde, but with Burgant to resist the stroke of a Battellaxe: they could better exhort a Souldier to Armour, then court a Lady with Amozets: they caused the Trumpet to sound them points of Warre, not Poets to write them wanton Elegies of Love: they sought after honourable fame, but hunted not after fading Honour, which distinction, by the way take thus: There bee some that seeke honour, and some are sought after by honour. Such upstarts as fetch their Pedegree from their fathers aunient Leather Approns, and creepe into the Court with great humilitie; ready at the first Balsciare li piedi di la vostra signiora, having gotten the countenance of some Nobleman, will straight bee a kindred to Cadwaller, and sweare his great Grandmother was one of the Burgessees of the Parliament house, will at last scale by degrees into some credit by their double diligence, and then winde some worshipfull place as farre as a hungry Dog can smell a Sir-reverence; and then with all their friends seeke day and night, with Coyne and countenance, till they haue got it. Others there bee, whom Honour it selfe seekes; and such bee they whom vertue doth frame fit for that purpose. that rising by high deserts, as Learning, or Valour, meritt more then either they looke for, or their Prince hath any ease convenient to bestow on them. Such Honour seekes, and they with a blushing conscience entertaine him, bee they neuer so high in fauour, yet they begge no Office, as the Chamelelle Upstart doth, that hath a hungry eye, to spy out an impudent face to sue, and a flattering

## A Quip for

longer to entreate for some boyde place of woozship, which little belonged to them, if the Prince intended to bestow Offices for vertue, not fauour. Other, Master Welnet-bjerches, there bee of your crue, that pinch their bellies to polish their backs; that keepe their malues empty, to fill their purses, that haue no shew of Gentility but a Welnet stop; who by poling or selling of Land that their father left, will bestow all to buy an Office about the Court, that they may bee woozshipfull, extoyting from the pooze, to raise by their money that the base deteuuing companions haue laid out, to haue an Office of some countenance and credit, wherein they may haue of mee better then themselves, bee tearmed by the name of Woozship. The last whom Vertue pleadeth for, and neither silver, gold, friends, nor fauour aduanceth, bee men of great woozth, such as are thought of Woozship, and unwillingly entertaine her, rather bouchfaling proffered honour for their Countries cause, then for any proud opinion of hoped-for preferment.

Blessed are such Lands whose Officers are so-placed, and where the Prince promoteth not for Coyne nor countenance, but for his woozthy deseruing vertues. But leaning this by-talk, mee thought I heard you say, Signior Welnet-bjerches, that you were the father of Mechanicall Arts; and Handi-crafts were found out to foster your bzaury. In faith, Goodman Goose-cappe, you that are come from the Kartbys, and therefore is called an Upstart, quasi, Kart by from clowted shoone, your lippes hung in your sight, when you brought forth this Logicke: for I hope there is none so simple, but knowes that Handi-crafts and Occupations grew for necessitie, not pride: that mens Inventions wayed sharpe to profit the Common-wealth, not to pynke by themselves in bzaury. I pray you, when Tubalcaine inuented tempering of Metals, had hee Welnet-bjerches to weare? In sabnesse, where was your Woozship, when his brother found out the accords and discords of Musicke hidden in hell, and not yet thought on by the Diuell, to cast forth as a bait to bying many proud fooles to ruine?

Indeede, I cannot deny, but your Woozship hath brought in deceit as a Iourneymen into all companies, and made that a subtile craft, which while I was holden in esteeme, was but a simple mystery: now euery trade hath his sleights, to rubber by his woozke



## an Vpstart Courtier.

to the eye, and to make it good to the sale, howsoeuer it pzooues in the wearing. The Schoonmaker cares not if his shoes hold the drawing on: the Taploz solves with hot needle, and burnt thred. Tush, pride hath banisht conscience, and Veluet breeches honesty, and euery seruile bzudge must ruffle in his likes, or else hee is not suteable.

The world was not so, A principio, for when Veluet was toozne but in Kings caps, then conscience was not a Boome-man in Kent-street, but a Courtier: then the Farmer was content his sonne should hold the Plough, and line as he had done befoze: Beggers then feared to aspire, and the higher sort scorned to enuy. Now euery Lout must haue his sonne a Courtmoll: and those dunghill bzudges were so pzoou, that they will presume to weare on their feet, what Kings haue toozne on their heads. A Clothes sonne must be clapt in a Veluet Pantophle, and a Veluet Bzeerb, though the presumptuous Rits bee down'd in the Percers Booke, and make a conuey of all his Lands to the Usurer for commodities: yea, the Pop must goe like a Gallant for a while, although at last in his age hee begge. But indeed such pong Wonts, when the Broker hath blest them with Saind Needams crosse, fall then to priu lifts, and cozenages: and when their credit is bitterly crackt, they practise some bad shift, and so come to a shamefull end.

Lastly, whereas thou saist thou art a seuerer sencer to punish sins, as anker as Cato, to correct vices, of truth I hold thee so in penall Statutes when thou hast begged the forfeit of the Prince: but such correction is open extortion, and oppression of the poore, nor can I compare it better, waster Veluet breech, then to the Woolfe chastising the Lambe, for disturbing the Fountaine, or the Diuell casting forth Dimels, though the power of Belzebub. And thus much, courteous Sir, I haue said, to display the follies of mine Aduersarie, and to shew the right of mine owne interest. Why, then quoth I, if you haue both said, it resteth but that wee had some to empanell vpon a Jury, and then, no doubt, but the verdict would soone be giuen on the one side. As thus I was talking to them, I might see comming downe the Hill a brave dapper Dicke, quaintly attired in Veluet, and Wattin, and a Cloake of cloth rash, with a Cambricks Kuffe as smoothly set, and he as neatly spundged, as if he had beene a  
Bride.

## A Quip for

**B**ridegroome: onely I gett by his pale a farre off, hee should bee a Tayloz: his head was holden vp so pert, and his legges shackle-ham'd, as if his knees had bene laced to his Thighes with points. Comming moze nere indeed, I spied a Taylozs Worke pike on his brest, a Spanish needle, and then I fitted my Salutations, not to his sales, but to his Trade, and incountred him by a thread-bare courtesie, as if I had not knowne him, and asked him of what occupation he was? A Tayloz, quoth he. Partly then, my friend, quoth I, you are the moze welcome: for heere is a great quarrell growne betwixt Velvet breeches, and Cloth breeches, so their prerogative in England: the matter is growne to an issue, there must a Jurie bee empannelled: and I would desire and intreat you to bee one of the Quill.

Not so, quoth Cloth Breeches, I challenge him. And why quoth I? What reason haue you? Doth hee not make them both? Yes, quoth he, but his gaine is not alike: alas, by mee he getteth small, onely hee is paid for his workmanship, vnclesse by misfortune his Sheeres slip awry, and then his bailes is but a shed of home-spun Cloth, whereas in making of Velvet Breeches, where there is required Silke, Lace, Cloth of Gold, of Silver, and such costly stuffe, so welt, guard, whip, stitch, edge, face, and draw out, that the Wailes of one Velvet breech, is moze then twenty paire of mine. I hope there is no Tayloz so precise, but hee can play the Cooke, and like his owne fingers: though hee looke vp to Heauen, yet hee can cast large threads of such rich stuffe into Hell vnder his Shop-boord. Beside, hee sets downe like the Clarke of the Checke, a large Bill of reckonings, which for hee keeps long in his pocket, he so powders for stinking, that the pong vsstart that needs it, feels it salt in his Nose a moneth after. Beside, Sir, Velvet Breeches hath aduanc'd him: for whereas in my time hee was counted but Goodman Tailor, now he is growne since Velvet breeches came in, to be called a Merchant, or Gentleman Merchant Tayloz, giuing Armes, and the Holy Lambe in his Crest; where before hee had no other cognizance, but a plaine Spanish Needle, with a Welsh Cricket on the top: sith then his gaine is so great, and his honour so aduanc'd by Velvet Breeches, I will not trust his conscience, nor shall hee come vpon my Jury.

Indeed

## an Vpstart Courtier.

Indeed you haue some reason, quoth I, but perhaps the Taploz doth this vpon meere deuotion, to punish pꝛide: and hauing no other authoritie, noꝛ meane, thinks it best to pinch them by the purse, and make them pay well, as to aske them twice so much silke lace, and other stuffe, as would suffice, and yet to ouerreach my pong Master with a Bill of reckonings, that will make him scratch where it itcheth not. Hercin I hold the Taploz foꝛ a necessarie member, to teach pong nouices the way to weeping crosse: that when they haue wasted what their fathers left them by pꝛide, they may grow sparing and humble by inferred pouertie: and by this reason the Taploz after his fashion exalteth the poore, and pulleth downe the pꝛoud: foꝛ of a wealthy Esquires sonne, he makes a thredbare Begger: and of a scoꝛnesfull Taploz, he sets vp an Vpstart scurvy Gentleman. Yet seeing you haue made a reasonable challenge to him, the Taploz shall be none of the Duck.

As I bade him stand by, there was comming along the Tiallie towards vs, a square set fellow, well sed, and as bzishly apparelled, in a blacke Tassara doublet, and a spꝛuce Leather Jerkin, with Chyl-stall buttons, a Cloake fac't alsoꝛ with Veluet, and a Couentry Cap of the finest wooll: his face something Ruby bluish, cherry-checked, like a thꝛed of Scarlet, oꝛ a little darker, like the Lees of old Claret Wine: a nose autem nose, purpled pꝛeciously with Pearle and Stone, like a counterfet woꝛke, and betwosene the filthy crumlcass of his blondshotten snowt, there appeared small holes, whereat woꝛmes heads peeped, as if they meant by their appearance to pꝛeach and shew the antiquitie and anticentrie of his house.

This fiery fac't Churle had vpon his fingers as many gold Rings as would furnish a Goldsmiths shop, oꝛ beserue a Pandoz of long pꝛofession to weare. Wondering what companion this should bee, I inquired of what occupation. Marry Sir, quoth he, a Broker: why doe you aske, haue you any pawnes at my house? No, quoth I, noꝛ by the help of God neuer will haue: but the reason is, to haue you vpon a Jury. At this word, befoꝛe I could enter my discourse vnto him, Veluet Breeches start vp, and swoꝛe hee should bee none of the Duck, foꝛ he would challenge him. And why, quoth I, what know you by him? This base Churle is one of the moths of the

## A Quip for

**Common-wealth:** beside, hee is a spoile of young Gentlemen, a bloud-sucker of the pooze, as thirskie as a Horse-leach, that will neuer leave drinking while hee burst: A knave that hath interest in the Leases of forty Hawby-houses, a receiver for Lists, and a dishonourable supporter for Cutpurises. To conclude, hee was gotten by an Incubus, a Hee Diuell, and brought forth by an overwoyne refuse, that had spent her youth under the ruines of Wolbicks barns.

**Monstrous inuentive,** quoth I, what reason haue yee to be thus bitter against him? Oh the villaine, quoth he, is the Diuels Factor, sent from hell to torment young Gentlemen upon earth? hee hath fetcht mee over in his time, onely in pawnes, in ten thousand pounds in gold. Suppose that Gentlemen through their liberall winds may want that I need, money: let mee come to him with a pawne worth ten pound, hee will not lend vpon it above three pound, and he will haue a Bill of sale, and twelue pence in the pound for every moneth, so that it comes to fiftene pence, with the Bill must monethly be renewed: and if you breake but your day set downe in the Bill of sale, your pawne is lost, as full bought and sold, you turned out of your goods, and he an vnconscionable gainer. Suppose the best, you keepe your day, yet paying fiftene pence a moneth for twenty shillings, you pay as good for the loan as fourescore in the hundred: is not this monstrous exacting vpon Gentlemen? Beside, the knave will bee diligently attending and waiting at dicing houses where wee are at play, and there hee is ready to lend the loser money by an Rings, and Chaines, apparell, or any other good pawne: but the pooze Gentleman payes so deare for the Lanender it is said vpon, that if it lye long at a Brokers house, hee seemes to buy his apparell twice. Nay, this worme-eaten wretch hath deeper pit-falls yet to trap youth in. For he being acquainted with a yong Gentleman of faire living, in issue of good Parents, or assured possibilitie, soothes him in his monstrous expences, and saies, hee carries the minde of a Gentleman, promising if hee want, hee shall not lacke for a hundred pound or two, if the Gentleman need. Then hath my Broker an Usurer at hand, as ill as himselfe, and he brings the money, but they tye the pooze soule in such Darbies bands, what with rectiuing ill Commodities, and seiscitures vpon the band,

that

## an Vpstart Courtier.

that they dub him Sir Iohn Hadland befoze they leaue him, and share like Woolues the poore nouices wealth betwixt them as a prey. He is (Sir) to bee byrse, a bolwyte bawdis Mizer, good for none but himselfe, and his trugge: a Carle that hath a filthy carcase without a conscience; a body of a man, wherein an infernall spirit, in stead of a soule, both inhabit: the scum of the seuen deadly sinnes, an enemy to all good minds, a deuourer of young Gentlemen, and to conclide, my moztall enemy, and therefore admit of my challenge, and let him be none of the Jury. Truly (quoth Cloth-byeerches) and I am willing he should be discarded too: for were not bad Brokers (I will not condemne all) there would be lesse filching, and fewer Theeues; for they receiue all is brought them, and buy that for a Crowne, that is woorth twenty Shillings: desire of gaine bindes their conscience, and they care not how it be come by, so they buy it cheape. Beside, they extort vpon the poore, that are inforced through extreme want to patvne their cloathes and household stuffe, their Pewter and Brasse; and if the poore soules that labour hard, misse but a day, the base-minded Broker takes the forseit, without remorse, or pittie: It was not so in Diebusillis. But thou proud Upstart Velvet-byeerches hast learn'd all Englishmen their villany, and all to maintaine thy bjaunery: yea, I haue knowne of late, when a poore woman layd a Silver Chimble, that was sent her from her friends for a token, to patvne for fye pence, and the Broker made her pay a halfe penny a weeke for it, which comes to two Shillings a yeere, for fye pence: sith then his conscience is so bad, let him be shuffled out amongst the Ananes, for a discarded Card. Content, quoth I, and bade the Broker stand backe, when there were euen at my heeles thre in a clusster, pert youths all, and neatly tyed: I questioned them what they were: and the one said, he was a Barber, the other a Surgeon, and the third an Apothecary. How like you of these (quod I) shall they be of your Jury? Of the Jury, quod Cloth-byeerches, neuer a one by my consent, for I challenge them all. Your reason quod I, and then you shall haue my verdict. Marry quod Cloth-byeerches first to the Barber, he cannot be but a partiall man on Velvet-byeerches side, sith he gets moze by one time byselling of him, then by ten times byselling of mee: I come plaine to bee poll'd, and so haue my beard cut, and pay him two pence: Velvet-byeerches hee sits

## A Quip for

Downe in the chaire wraapt in fine Clothes, as though the Barber were about to make him a footcloth for the Vicar of Saint fooles: then beginnes hee to take his Scissors in his hand, and his Combe, and so to snap with them, as if hee meant to giue a warning to all the Lice in his wittie lockes for to prepare themselves, for the day of their distraction was at hand: then comes hee out with his suftian eloquence, and making a low conge, saith, Sir, will you haue your Wozships haire cut after the Italian manner, short and round, and then frounst with the curling yrons, to make it looke like a halfe-Spoons in a Pitt: or like a Spantard, long at the eares, and curled like to the two ends of an old cast Periwig: or will you bee Frenchified with a long-locke downe to your shoulders, wherein you may weare your mistresse fanour? the English cut is base, and Gentlemen scorne it, nouelty is dainty: speake the word, Sir, my Scissors are ready to execute your Wozships will. His head being once dyest, which requires in combing and rubbing some two howers, hee comes to the Basen: then being curiously washt with no worse then a Camphire ball, he descends as low as his beard, and asketh whether he please to be shauen or no: whether hee will haue his Beake cut short and sharpe, amiable like an Inamorato, or broad-pendant like a Spade, to be terrible like a Warriour: or a Soldado: whether hee will haue his crates cut low like a Juniper bush, or his Suberches taken away with a Razor: if it bee his pleasure to haue his appendices prinde, or his Poucharches sofred, to turne about his eares like the branches of a Vine, or cut downe to the lip with the Italian last, to make him looke like a halfe faced bauby in Masse? These quaint tearmes, Barber, you greet Master Velvet-breeches withall, and at euerie word a snap with your Scissors, and a cringe with your knee: whereas when you come to pooze Cloth-breeches, you either cut his beard at your owne pleasure, or else in disdaine aske him if he will be trim'd with Christs cut, round like the halfe of a holland These, marking both Christ and he: for this your knavery, my will is, you shall be none of the Zorp. For you, master Surgeon, the statutes of England exempt you from being of any Quest, and braue, alas, I selbome fall into your hands, as being quiet, and making no brauies to haue woundes, as swart-suitting Velvet-breeches doth: neither do I frequent whozephones to catch the Sparbles, and so to grow



## an Vpstart Courtier.

groo your Patient: I know you not, and therefore I appeale to the Statute you shall haue nothing to doe with my matter. And soz you, Master Apothecary, alas, I looke not once in seuen peere into your Shop, without it be to buy a penny worth of wormeseed to giue my child to drinke, or a little Treacle to drine out the Peasels, or perhaps some dzegs or powders, to make my sick horse a trench withall: but soz my selfe, if I be ill at ease, I take Witchin-Pewicke, I make my wife my Doctor, and my Garden my Apothecaries shoppe, whereas queasie Master Welnet-breeches cannot haue a sort away, but he must haue his Purgations, Pills, and Clisters, or euacuate by Electuaries: hee must, if the least spot of Poxpeth come on his face, haue his oyle of Tartar, his Lac virginis, his Camphire dissolved in beruice, to make the soole as faire sozsooth, as if hee were to play Maid-marian in a May-gaue or mozis dance: tush, hee cannot digest his meat without Conserues, noz end his nicale without Suckats, noz (shall I speake plainly) please the Trugge his mistress, without hee goe to the Apothecaries, soz Eringion, Olcum Formicarium alatarum, & aqua mirabilis, of ten pound a pint: if master Welnet-breeches with drinking these dzugs, hap to haue a sinking breath, then sozsooth the Apothecary must play the Perfumier to make it sweet: nay, what is it about him, that hee blameth not nature soz screaming, and sozmeth if anew by art, and in all this who but moonstrier the Apothecary: therefore, good Sir (quoth hee) seeing you haue taken vpon you to be trier soz the challenges, let those thzee as partii all companions be packing.

Why (quoth I) seeing you haue peeled such reason of refusall, let them stand by: presently looking about soz moze, comes walking dozne an aged graue Sir, in a blacke Welnet coat, and a blacke Cloth Colone, twitted and faced, and after him, as I suppose, foure seruigemen, the most illfaoured knaues, me thought, that euer I saw, one of them had on a Ruffe-leather Jerkin, all greasie befoze with the dzoppings of Beere, that fell from his Beard, and by his side, a Skeins like a Wretchers bung kniife, and muffled bee was in a Cloke turne ouer his nose, as though hee had bene ashamed to shew his face. The second had a belly like a Bucking-tubbe, and at the bare blacke coat buttoned befoze vpon the breast, whereon the mappe of junkennesse was dzawne, with the bowdy and bowle excrements that

## A Quip for

that dyopt from his filthy leaking mouth The third was a long  
 leane old flauering flangrill, with a Brazill staffe in the one hand, and  
 a Whip-cord in the other; so pozeblind, that he had like to haue sum-  
 bled vpon the company befoze he saw them. The fourth was a fatte  
 chaffe, with a sowze looke, in a blacke Cloke sacrd with Taffata, and  
 by his side a great fide Pouch like a Faulhoner; for their faces, all  
 foure seemed to be byethzen, they were so bumbasted with the strokes  
 of strong Beere, and lined with the Lees of old Hacke, that they lookt  
 like foure blowne bladders painted ouer with red Oaker, or waht  
 ouer with the suds of an old Ale die. All these, as well the master,  
 as the following mates, would haue past away, but that I kept be-  
 foze them, and enquired first of the foremost, what he was & Harry, qu.  
 he, a Lawyer. Then Sir, quoth I, we haue a matter in controuersie  
 that requires counsell, and you are the moze welcome. What is it,  
 quoth he? Harry, said I, whether Cloth breeches or Weluet bree-  
 ches are of moze worth? and which of them hath the best title to be  
 resident in England? At this, the Lawyer smiled: and Weluet bree-  
 ches stepping forth, tooke acquaintance of him, and commending his  
 honesty, said, there could not be a man of better indifferencie of the  
 Jury: when Cloth-breeches stepping in, swoze he marvelled hee was  
 not, so well as the Surgeon, exempted by act of Parliament, from be-  
 ing of any quest; sith as the Surgeon was without pity, so hee was  
 without conscience: and thereupon infer'd his challenge, saying, the  
 Lawyer was neuer friend to Cloth-breeches: for when lowliness,  
 neighbourhood, and hospitality liued in England, Westminster-hall  
 was a dining chamber, not a denne of controuersies, when the King  
 himselfe was content to keepe his S. Georges day in a plaine paire  
 of Kerse Hose, when the Duke, Earle, Lord, Knight, Gentleman and  
 Esquire, aimed at vertue, not pride; and woze such Breeches as was  
 spun in his house: then the Lawyer was a simple man, and in the  
 highest degree was but a bare Scriuener, except Judges of the  
 Land, which tooke in hand serious matters, as treasons, murders,  
 felonies, and such capitall offences, but selosome was there any pleas  
 put in, befoze that proud Upstart Weluet-breeches, for his main-  
 tenance inuented strange controuersies, and since hee beganne to do-  
 minere in England, he hath buz'd such a proud buile rountous, and  
 incroching humoꝝ vpon enery mans head, that Lawyers are growne



## an Vpstart Courtier.

to bee one of the chiefe lims of the common-wealth: for they do not  
 adaves de lana caprina rixare, goe to Law if a Pen doe but scrape in  
 his Dyebard; but howsoever right be, might carries alway the be-  
 dit: if a poore man sue a Gentleman, why he shootes vp to the sky,  
 and the arrow falls on his owne head, howsoever the cause goe, the  
 weakest is thurst to the wall: Lawyers are troubled with the heat  
 of the Liner, which makes the palmes of their hands so hot, that  
 they cannot be cool'd, unless they be rub'd with the oyle of Angels:  
 but the poore man that giues but his bare fee, or perhaps pleats  
 in forma pauperis, he hunteth for Hares with a Taber, and gropeth  
 in the darke to finde a Needle in a bottle of Hay: tush, these Law-  
 yers haue such delatozke and foraine pleats, such dozmers, such quibs  
 and quibbotts, that beggering their Clients, they purchase to them-  
 selues whole Lordships: it boosteth not men to discourse their little  
 conscience, and great extortion, onely suffice they be not so rich as  
 they be bad, and yet they be but too wealthy. I inueigh not against  
 Law, nor honest Lawyers, for there bee some well qualified, but  
 against extorting Ambobesters that wryng the poore: and because I  
 know not whether this be such a one, or no, I challenge him not to  
 bee of my Jury. Why, then (quoth I) his Wozship may depart: and  
 then I questioned what hee in the Buffe Jerkin was: Marry (quoth  
 he) I am a Serieant. He had no sooner said so, but Heluet Breeches  
 leapt backe, and dzawing his Rapier, swoze hee did not onely chal-  
 lenge him for his Jury, but protested if hee strid one foote toward  
 him, he would make him eate a piece of his Pontard. And what is  
 the reason (quoth I) that there is such mostall hatred betwixt you  
 and the Serieant? O Sir (quoth Heluet Breeches) search him, and  
 I warrant you, the knaue hath precept vpon precept to arrest mee,  
 hath wozne his Face smooth, with onely clapping it vpon my shoul-  
 der, hee hath had mee vnder coram so often: oh the reprobate is the  
 Usurers executioner to bzing such Gentlemen to Limbo, as he hath  
 overthrowne with his base bzocage, and bad commodities: and as  
 you see him a fat knaue with a foggy face, where in a cup of old sack  
 hath set a seale, to marke the bottlie dzunkard to die of the dzoplie:  
 so his conscience is consumed, and his heart robb of all remozze and  
 pittie, that for money hee will betray his owne father: for will a  
 Cozmozant but see him to arrest a young Gentleman, the Rake-  
 hell

## A Quip for

hell will bee so eager to catch him, as a dogge to take a Beare by the eares in Paris Garden, and when he hath laid hold vpon him, hee bleeth him as courteously as a Butchers Curie would doe an Ox-checke when hee is hungry: if hee see the Gentleman hath money in his purse, then straight with a cap and knee he carries him to the Fauerne, and bids him send for some of his friends to baile him: but first hee covenants to haue some brace of Angels for his paines, and besides he calls in for Wine as greedily, as if the knowes mother had been brycht against a Hogshead when he was begotten: but suppose the Gentleman wants pence, hee will either haue a patrone, or else dragge him to the Counter, without respect of manhood, or honesty. I should spend the whole day with displaying his villanies: therefore briefly let this suffice, hee was neuer made for any goodnesse, but his slovenly carcase was fram'd by the Diuell, of the rotten carrion of a Woollfe, and his soule of an Usurers damned ghost, turn'd out of hell, into his body, to doe monstrous wickednes againe vpon the earth, so that hee shall be none of my Jurie, neither shall hee come neerer mee then the length of my Rapier will suffer him.

Indeed, quoth Cloth Breeches, generally Sergeants bee bad, but there be amongst them some honest men, that will doe their duties with lawfull fauour: for, to say truth, if Sergeants were not, how should men come by their debts? marry they are so cruell in their office, that if they arrest a poore man, they will not suffer him (if hee hath not money) to stay a quarter of an houre to talke with his Creditor, although perhaps at the meeting they might take composition; but onely to the Counter with him, vnlesse hee will lay his Pewter, Brass, Coverlets, Sheetes, or such household stuffe, to them for payne of payment of some coyne for their staying: therefore let him depart out of the place, for his roome is better then his company. Well then, quoth I, what say you to these three? and with that I questioned their names: the one said hee was a Sumner, the other a Coler, and the third an Informer. Iesus blesse me (quoth Cloth Breeches) what a Gang was heere gathered together no doubt hell is broke loose, and the Diuell meanes to keepe Holiday: I make challenge against them all, as against worse men then those that gaue euidence against Christ: for the Sumner, it bootes

## an Vpstart Courtier.

bootes mee to say little more against him, then Chaucer did in his *Canterbury Tales*, who said he was a knave, a Byber, and a Bawd: but leaning that authoritie, although it bee authenticall, yet thus much I can say of my selfe, that these drunken dyabolike sonnes goe a tooting abroad (as they themselves tearme it) which is to heare if any man hath got his maid with child, or playes the goodfellow with his neighbours Wife: if he finde a hole in any mans coat that is of wealth, then he hath his peremptory citation ready to cite him before the Archdeacons, or Officials Court, there to appeare and abide the shame and penalty of the Law: the man perhaps in good credit with his neighbours, loth to bying his name in question, greaseth the Sumner in the fist, and then he wipes him out of the booke, and suffers him to get twenty with child, so he keepe him warme in the hand. Hee hath a saying to wanton Wives, and they are his good Dames, and as long as they feed him with Cheeke, Bacon, Capons, and such odde reuerfions, they are honest: and be they neuer so bad, he streakes to the Officiall, complaints are made vpon enuy, and the women are of good behauiour. Told what bawdy is it he will not suffer, so he may haue monny, and good cheere? and is hee like the French well, a snatch himselfe, for they know all the Whores in a country, and are as lecherous companions as may be. To be briefe, the Sumner liues vpon sins of people, and out of harlotry gets he all his commodity. As for the Gaoler, although I haue been little troubled in prison, to haue experience of his knauiery: yet haue I heard the poore prisoners complaine how cruell they be to them, extorting with extraordinary fees, selling a double curtall (as they call it) with a double luge of Beere for two pence, which contains not above a pint and a halfe. Let a poore man be arresed into one of the Counters, though hee but set his foote in them but halfe an houre, he shall be almost at an Angels charge: what with garnish, crossing, and wiping out of the booke, turning the key, paying the Chamberlaine, seeing for his Jury, and twenty such extortions, inuented by themselves, and not allowed by any Statute. God blesse mee, Gaoler from your Den-houses, as I will keepe you from coming in my Duck. And to you, Master Informer you that looke like a riuill Cittizen, or some handsome Petty-fogger of the Law: although your crimson nose betwixes you can sup off a coole cup of Hacke without

## A Quip for

without any chewing, yet haue you as much knauerie in your Nos  
Pouch there, as would breed the confusion of forty honest men. It  
may be, Sir, that you maruell why I exclaime against the Infor-  
mer, sith he is a most necessarie member in the Common-wealth, and  
is highly to the Princes advantage for the benefit of penall Sta-  
tutes and other abuses, whereof he giveth speciall intelligence? To  
swipe out this doubt, I speake not against the Office, but the Offi-  
cer, against such as abuse Law, when they should vse it, and such a  
one I gesse this fellow to be, by the Carnation tincture of his rubie  
nose. Wherefore let vs search his bagge, and see what trash you shall  
finde in it: with that, although the Informer were very loth, yet we  
pluckt out the stuffing of his Pouch, and in it was found a hundred  
and odder Whits: Whereat I wondred: and Cloth breeches smi-  
ling bade mee reade the Labels, and the parties names, and then exa-  
mine the Informer how many of them hee knew, and wherein they  
had offended. I followed his counsell, and of all he knew but threes,  
neither could hee tell what they had done amisse to bee arrested, and  
brought in question.

Cloth breeches seeing me stand in a maze, began thus to resolve me  
in my doubt. Perhaps, quoth he, you murtherell, why the Informer hath  
all these Whits, and knowes neither the parties, nor can obiect any  
offence to them? To this I answer: that it being a long vacation, he  
learned in the rotule all those mens names, and that they were men of  
indifferent wealth: Now meanes he to goe abroad, and search them  
out and arrest them, and though they know not wherein, or for what  
cause they should be troubled, yet rather then they will come vp to  
London and spend their money, they will bestow some odder Angell  
vpon master Informer, and so sit at home in quiet. But suppose some  
bee so stubborne as to stand to the tryall, yet can this cunning knave  
declare a Tamquam against them, so that though they be cleared, yet  
can they haue no recompence at all, for that hee doth it in the Courts  
behalf. I will not vnfold all his villanies, but he is an abuser of good  
lawes, and a very knave, and so let him be with his fellowes. I both  
wondred & laught to heare Cloth Breeches make this discourse, when  
I saw two in the Tally together by the eares, the one in leather, the  
other as blacke as the Diuell: I slept to them to part the fray, and  
questioned what they were, and wherefore they brawled: Parry,  
quoth

## an Vpstart Courtier.

quoth hee, that lookt like Lucifer, Though I am blacke, I am not the Diuell, but indeed a Collier of Croydon, and so, Sir, that haue sold many a man a false sacke of coles, that both wanted measure, and was halfe full of dust and drosse. Indeed I haue bene a Kiger in my time in London, and haue played many madde pranks: for which cause, you may apparantly see, I am made a curlew: for the Pillopy (in the sight of a great many good and sufficient witnesses) hath eaten off both mine eares: and now, Sir, this Kope-maker hunteth me heere with his Halers. I gesse him to bee some euill spirit, that in the likenes of a man, would, since I haue past the pillopy, perswade mee to hang my selfe for my old offences: and therefore sith I cannot blisse mee from him with Nomine Patris, I lay Spiritus Sanctus about his shoulders with a Crab-tree Cudgell, that he may get out of my company.

The Kope-maker replyed, that honestly iourneying by the way, hee acquainted himselfe with the Collier, and for no other cause pretended. Honest with the Diuell (quoth the Collier) how can hee bee honest, whose mother I gesse was a Witch: For I haue heard them say, that Witches say their prayers backward, and so doth the Kope-maker earne his lining by going backward; and the knaues chiefe lining is by making fatall instruments, as Halers, & Hopes, which such desperate men hang themselves with. Well (quoth I) what say you to these, shall they bee on the Iure? Aleiuet-byeches said nothing, but Cloth-byeches said, In the Kope-maker he found no great falshood in him, therefore hee was willing hee should bee one: but for the Collier, hee thought it necessary, that as he came, so he should depart: so then I bade the Kope-maker stand by till moze came, which was not long; for there came thre in a clusker. As soone as they dyewine, I spoyed one, a fat Churle with a Roe Russet coat to his knee, and his hands all to tanned with shifting his Duse, yet would I not take notice what they were, but questioned with them of their severall occupations. Harry, quoth the first, I am a Tanner, the second a Shoemaker, and the third a Carrier: then turning to the Plain-tife and Defendaunt, I asked them if they would allow of these parties? No, by my faith, quoth Cloth-byeches, I make challenge vnto them all, and I will yeeld reasons of imposit againe them: & first

## A Quip for

to you, Master Tanner, Are you a man worthy to be of a Jury, when your conscience cares not to wrong the whole Commonwealth you respect not publicke commoditie, but private gaines: not to benefit your neighbour, but so; to make the proud Prince your Sonne a bypart Gentleman: and because you would marry your Daughter at the least to an Esquire, that she may, if it be possible, be a Gentlewoman: and how comes this to passe? By your Tan-  
tats so; sooth. For whereas by the ancient Lawes and Statutes of England, you should let a Hyde be in the Tuss, at the least nine moneths, you can make good Leather of it before thye moneths: you have your Doves dung, your Harle, your shen Barke, and a thousand things more, to bring on your Leather space, that it is so badly Tanned, that when it comes to the wearing, then it flakes away like a piece of bystone Paper: And whereas your Backes, of all other, should be the best tanned; you bring them so full of hohne to the Market, that did you not greaze the Dealers of Leaden-hall thow-  
rotoly in the fist, they should neuer be sealed, but turned away, and made so; sooth by the Statute. I cannot at large lay open your subtill practises to beguile the poore communitie with bad Leather. But let this suffice, you leave no villany unsought, to bring the blockhead your Sonne to goe afoze the Clowne his father, trimly trickt up in a paire of Velvet breeches.

Now, Master Carrier, to your cosenage; you cannot bee content onely to burne the Leather you dyesse, so; fault of liquor, because you would make the Shoemaker pay well, and you put in little stuffe: and besides, when as in Barkes you should only put in Cal-loe hard and good, you put in soft Ditchin-stuffe mixt, and so make the good and well-tanned Leather by your villany, to flake and waste away, but also you grow to be an extorting Anaue, and a soze-  
taller of the Market, so; you will buy Leather, Hides, Backes, and Calue skinaes, and sell them to the poore Shoemakers at an unreasonable rate, by your false, retapling, getting infinite goods by that excessive price: both vndoing the poore Shoemaker, and causing vs, that wee pay extremely so; shoes. For if the Carrier bought not Leather by the whole of the Tanner, the Shoemaker might haue it at a more reasonable price: but the Shoemaker being poore, is not perhaps able to deale with a dicker of Hyas, nor per-  
hays



## an Vpstart Courtier.

days with a couple of Backes, and the Tanner will not trust him: then the extorting and couzening Currier comes by with this, I will lend you for a dayt and so pincheth him, that hee is scarce able to finde his children bread. But well hath the Prince and the Honorable Lords of the priuie Conncel provided by Act of Parliament, That no Currier shall buy Leather, either Backes or Hides of the Tanner, so to bryde the extorting and sozeifalling couzenage: but craftilier and subtilter hath the knaue Currier crof-bitten the Statute, in that he deales thus with the Tanner, hee makes him hold his Leather unreasonable to the Shoemaker; and so when hee cannot sell it, he lapes it vp in the Curriers house, vnder a colour, whereas indeed he hath sold it him. Suppose this Shift bee spied and presented: then compoundeth he with some knaue Shoemaker, some base Make-hell without a conscience, that neither respecteth God, the Common-wealth, nor his Company, and forsooth hee is halfe with the Currier, who letteth him haue some hundred Markes to lay out for Leather every moneth, whereas he spends not in his Shop a hundred Markes worth in a yeere: so the Shoemaker buyes it to abuse the Statute, for the Currier, and the Currier by that meanes vndoeth the other Shoemakers: thus two crafty knaues are met, and they need no Broker.

Now to you, Gentle-craft, you master-Shoemakers: you can put in the inner sole of a thin Calues skin, when as the Shoo is a Heates-leather Shoo, which you know is cleane contrary both to conscience and the Statute. Beside, you will loyne a Heates-leather Wampee to a Calues-leather Heels: is not here good stuffe, master Shoemaker? Well, for your knavery, you shall haue those curses which belong vnto your Craft: you shall bee light-footed to trauell farre, light-witted, vpon every small occasion to giue your masters the bagge: you shall bee most of you vnthrifts, and almost all perfect good fellows. Beside, I remember a merry tell, how Mercury brought you to a dangerous disease, for hee requested a boone for you, which fell out to your great disadvantage: and to recreate vs, heare a little Gentle-craft, what fell to your trade by that winged god. As it happened on a time, that Iupiter and Mercury traueiling together vpon earth, Mercury was wonderfully hungry and had no money in his purse to buy him any foods, and at last, to his

## A Quip for

great comfort hee spied where a company of Taylours were at Dinner with buttered Pease, eating their Pease with their Needles points one by one: Mercury came to them, and asked them his almes: they proudly bade him sit downe and doe as he sawe they did, and with that deliuered him a Needle. The poore god being passing hungry, could not content his maw with eating one by one, but turned the eye of his Needle, and ate two or thre together. Which the Taylours seeing, they start vp, and said: What fellow, a Shouell and Spade to butter'd Pease? hast thou no more manners? Get out of our company; and so they sent him packing with many strokes. Mercury comming backe, Iupiter demanded of him wat newes? and hee told him how charitably hee was vsed amongst the Taylozs. Well, wandring on further, Mercury espied where a company of Shoomakers were at Dinner with powdered Beefe and Bietwelle: going to them, befoze he could aske them any almes, they said, Welcome good fellow, what, is thy stomacke vp? wilt thou doe as wee doe, and taste of Beefe? Mercury thanked them, and sate downe and ate his belly full, and drank well of double Beere, and when hee had done went home to his master. As soone as hee came, Iupiter asked him what newes? and he said: I haue lighted amongst a truce of Shoomakers, the best fellows that euer I met withall; they haue frankly sedde mee without grudging, and therefore grant mee a boone for them. Aske what thou wilt, Mercury, quoth hee, and it shall bee done. Why then, quoth hee, grant, that for this good turne they haue done mee, they may euer spend a groat, afoze they can earne two pence. It shall bee granted, quoth he. Mercury, as soone as Iupiter had said the word, hee bethought himselfe, and said: Nay, but that they may earne a groat afoze they spend two pence, for my tongue slipt at the first. Well, Mercury, quoth hee, it cannot bee recalled, the first word must stand: and hereof by Mercuries boone it grew, that all of the Gentle-craft are such good fellows, and Spendthrifts. But howsoeuer, none of those thre, neither Shoomaker, Tanner, nor Carrier, shall bee accepted to bee of the Inne.

As they went away with fleas in their eares, being thus taunted by Cloth-breeches, we might see where there came a troope of ancient



## an Vpstart Courtier.

out Gentlemen, with their Seruingmen attending vpon them. The foremost was a great old man, with a white Beard, all in Russet, and a faire blacke cloake on his backe, and attending on him hee had some five men: their cognizance, as I remember, was a Peacoeke without a tayle: the other two that accompanied him, seemed meaneer then himselfe: but yet Gentlemen of good Worth: wherevpon I went towards them, and saluted them, and was so bold as to question what they were, and of their business.

The most ancientest answered hee was a Knight, and those two his neighbours: the one an Esquire, the other a Gentleman, and that they haue no vrgent affaires: but onely to walke abroad to take the fresh ayze. Then did I shew them both Cloth Breeches, and Velvet Breeches, and told them the Controuersie, and desired their aide to bee vpon the Iurp. They smiling answered, They were content: and so did Cloth breeches seeme to reioyce, that such honest ancient English Gentlemen should bee tryers of this Title. But Velvet breeches stoyming, kept in, and made challenge to them all. I demanded the reason why hee should refuse Gentlemen of so good calling: And he made me this answer: Why, you may gesse the inward minde, by the outward apparell: and see how he is adicted by the homely robes hee is suted in. Why, this Knight is mortall enemy to pride, and so to me: hee regardeth hospitality, and aimeth at honour, with relieuing the poore: you may see although his lands and reuenues be great, and hee able to maintaine himselfe in great banerie, yet hee is content with home-spun cloth, and scorneth the pride that is vles now adaires amongst yong Vpstarts: hee holdeth not the worth of his Centry to be and consist in Velvet breeches, but valueth true fame by the report of the common sort, who praise him for his vertue, iustice, Liberalitie, House-keeping and Almes-deeds. Vox populi, vox Dei: his Tenants and Farmers would if it might bee possible, make him immortall with their prayers, and praises. Hee raiseth not rent, racketh no lands, taketh no incumbrs, imposeth no mercilesse fines, enuies not another, buyeth no house ouer his neighbours head: but respecteth his countrey, and the commoditie thereof, as beare as his life. Hee regardeth more to haue the needy fedde, to haue his boord garnished with full platters, then to famous himselfe with excessive

lure

## A Quip for

furniture in apparell. Since then he scozeth pride, he must of force  
proclaime himselfe mine enemy : and therefore hee shall be none of  
my Jury ; and such as himselfe I gesse the Squire, and the Gentle-  
man, and therfore I challenge them all. Why, quoth I, this is strange,  
that a man should be byatone from a Quest, for his godlinesse. If men  
for Vertue be challenged, whom shall we haue upon the Jury ? Your  
obiation helps not, Master Welnet breeches : For if he be a man of so  
goodly disposition, he will neither speake for feare nor fauour, he will  
regard neither the riches of the one, nor the plaine poverty of the o-  
ther : whereupon, Altho you haue made me a tryer, I allow them all  
thys to be of the Jury : and so I requested them to sit downe till our  
Jury was full, which they courteously did, although Welnet breeches  
frown'd at it.

When I looking for more, saw where there came a troope of men  
in apparell seeming youze honest Cittizens, in all they were eight.  
I demanded of them what they were, and whither they were go-  
ing. One of them that seemed the wealthiest, who was in a furred  
Jacket, made answer, that they were all friends, go'ng to the buriall  
of a neighbour of theirs, that yesternight died, and if it would doe  
me any pleasure to heare their names, they were not so dainty but  
that they would tell them : and so then he began tell mee, that by his  
Art hee was a Skinner : the second said hee was a Joyner, the  
third was a Saddler, the fourth a Waterman, the fift was a Cutler,  
the sixt was a Bellows-mender, the seventh a Plasterer, and the  
eight a Winter. In good time, quoth I, it is commendable when  
neighbours loue so well together: but if your speed be not overmuch,  
I must request you to be of a Jury: so I discours'd vnto them the con-  
trouersie betweene Cloth breeches, and Welnet Breeches, and to  
what issue it must growe by a verdict: they seemed all content, and I  
turned to the Plaintiffe, and Defendant, and asked if they would  
make challenge to any of these? I scozne, quoth Welnet Breeches,  
to make any great obiation against them, Altho they bee merchant-  
call men, and I almost hold them indifferent : for this I know, they  
get as much and more by me, then by him. The Skinner I vse for  
Furres, whereas this base Cloth Breeches hath scarce a gowne sa-  
ced once in his life: the Saddler, for costly imbouldere Saddles:  
the Joyner for sceling my house: the Cutler for gilt Rapiers: the  
Water-

## an Vpstart Courtier.

Waterman I vse continually, tentimes for his once, and so likewise the Plasterer: for the Yellowf-mender, alas, pooze snake, I know him not: for the Printer, assuredly, I thinke I am some ten pound in his debt for bookes, so that for my part let them all passe. And for me (quoth Cloth-byeerches) but yet a little to put them in remembrance of their follies, let mee haue a bout with them all: and first with you, Master Skinner, to whom I can say little, but onely this, that whereas you should onely put the backs of skins into facing, you take the wombs, and so deccaine the buyer: beside, if you haue some Santa-like skin brought you not worth two pence, with some strange spots, though it bee of a Leopard, you will sweare it is a most precious skin, and came from Musco, at the furthest part of Calabria. The Saddler he stuffes his Pannels with Straws or Hay, and ouer-glaseth them with Haire, and makes the Leather of them of Spots, or tanned Sheepes-skinnes. The Joyner, though an honest man, yet hee maketh his ioynts weake, and putteth in sappe in the Spoyntes, which should be the heart of the Tree, and all to make his stoffe slender. And you, Cutler, you are patron to ruffians and swash-bucklers, and will sell them a blade that may bee thrust into a bushell, but to a poore man that cannot skill of it, you sell him a sword or rapier new ouer-glased, and sweare, the blade came either from Turkey, or Toledo. Now (Master Waterman) you will say there is no subtilty in you, for there is none so simple but that knows your fares, & what is due betwixen Greenwich and London, & how you earne your money painfully with the sweat of your browes: all this is true, but let me whisper one thing in your eare, you will play the goodfellow too much if you be well greased in the fist, for if a yong Gentleman and a pretty wench come to you, & say, Waterman, my friend and I meane to goe by water, and to be merry a night or two, I care not which way, nor whither we goe, and therefore where thou thinkest wee may haue best lodging, thither carry vs: then off goes your cap, and away they goe, to Brainford, or some other place, and then you say, Alas, I pray you vse this Gentleman and his wife well, they are come out of London to take the aire, and meane to be merry here a night or two, and to spend their money frankly, when God wot they are neither man nor wife, nor perhaps of any acquaintance, before their match made in some halway Tauerne; but you know no such matter: & therefore Wa-

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serman, & pardon you. And for you, Plasterer and Bellows-mender. I passe you ouer, and so I doe the Winter too. And therefore I am content they shall be all on the Jury. I was glad there were so many accepted at once, and hoped that now quickly the Jury would be full.

Looking about mee, straight I might see one alone come running as fast as he could : I wondered what hee should be that he made such haste, and the Skinner told mee hee was an honest man, and one of their company, by his occupation a Ficklayer. Oh (quoth Meluet breeches) a good honest simple man, he hath been long in my worke in building me a sumptuous house. But I challenge him (quoth Cloth-breeches) for he is a Juggler. How (quoth I) can it be ? see, he goeth very homely in leather, and hath his ruler in his hand, and his trowell at his side, and he seemeth not as one that were giuen to such qualitties. Yes, (quoth Cloth breeches) he hath his policy, when he maketh a stately place all glorious to the eye, and full of faire Chambers and goodly roomes, and about his house perhaps some threescore Chimnies. Yet he can so cunningly cast by his art, that thye of them shall not smoke in the twelue month, and so spoiles he much good Foyter and Fick.

Why (quoth I) the fault is not in the workeman, but the house-keeper : for now adayes men build to please the eye, not to profit the poore, they vse no rest but for themselves and their household, nor no fire, but a little Court Chimney in their owne Chamber : how can the poore Ficklayer then be blamed, when the niggardnesse of the Lord and Master is the cause no more Chimnies doe smoke : for would they vse ancient hospitalitie as their forefathers did, and haue as lightly of pride, as their great Grandfathers, then should you see every Chimney in the house smoke, and proue that the poore Artificer had done his part. Why then (quoth Cloth breeches) as you please admit him on the Quest. But what be those (quoth Cloth breeches) that come heere so soberly ? I hope they be honest men, for they looke very demure. I will inquire said I, and with that stepping to them, I demanded their names : and very courteously the one said he was a Brewer, the other a Butcher, the third a Baker, and the fourth a Tictualler. Hearing what they were, I was glad, seeing first they were so honest substantiall men, that they would helpe to  
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make by the Jury, when Melnet-breeches with a grimme and lowly countenance gaue them this challenge : I hold it not necessarie (quoth he) that these haue any thing to deale in my cause, for I am at odds with them all, at least in forty pounds apiece: for this seuen yeere haue I bene indebted unto them for Bread, Beefe, Beere, and other Victuals : then sith they haue credited mee long, and I haue had so little care to pay them, I doubt now they will reuenge themselves, and passe against mee in the Verdict. Say (quoth I) the rather will they hold on your part; for if they be honest wise men, (as they seeme to bee) they will be carefull of your preferment, seeing the more highly you are aduanc't, the more like are they to come by their owne. If therefore you can obiect no other points of dishonesty against them, I see no reason why they should be put by. If you doe not (quoth Cloth breeches) then heare me, and I wil proue them vnfit to haue any dealings heere, and first for the Butcher : I pray you Goodman Hil-calse, what hauocke play you with puffing vp of meate, and blowing with your Pucker as you flay it : haue you not your artificiall knaueries to set out your meate with pucker, and then swear hee hath more for money then euer you bought : to sell a piece of an olde Cow, for a choppe of a young Dre : to wash your old meat that hath hung tweltring in the shop, with new blood, to trusse away an old Cat, in stead of a young Weather: and although you know it is hurtfull, and forbidden by the Statutes to flay your Hypes, skins backs, with cuts and slashes, to the impourrishing of the pooze Shoemaker when hee buyes it: yet I pray you how many slaughters doe you make in a pooze Calues-skin : Oh Butcher, a long Lent be your punishment: for you make no conscience in decreining the pooze. And you Bytwer, that grow to bee twoozth forty thousand pounds by selling of sodden water, what subtiltie haue you in making your Beere, to spare the Malt. and put in more of the Hop to make your drink (be Barly neuer so cheape) not a whit the stronger, and yet sell neuer a whit the more measure for money; you can, when you haue taken all the heart of the Malt away, then clap on Roze of water, 'tis cheape enough, and maketh out a tunning of small Beere, that it scoures a mans mawe like Kenneth wine: in your conscience how many Barrels draw you out of a quarter of Malt? He, He. I conceal your falsehood,

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lest I should bee too broad in setting downe your faults. And for you, goodman Baker, you that loue to bee seene in the open Market place vpon the Pillory, the world cryes out of your wilinesse, you craue but one deare yeere to make your Daughter a Gentlewoman: you buy your coynes at the best hand, and yet will not bee content to make your bread weight by many ounces: you put in Pest, and Salt, to make it heauie, and yet all your policie cannot make it, but you sine for the Pillory. The poore cry out, the rich find fault, and the Lord Mayor, and the Sheriffes, like Honorable and Worshipfull Magistrates, euery day walke abroad, and weigh your bread, and yet all will not serue to make you honest men: but were extremitie bled, and the Statute put in the highest degree in practice, you would haue as few cares of your heades, as the Collier. Last, to you, Tom Tapsier, that tap your small Cans of Beere to the poore, and yet fill them halfe full of froth, that card your Beere (if you see your ghests beginne to be drunke) halfe small, and Wrong: you cannot bee content to pinch them with your small pots, and your Distric Faggots: but haue your Trugges, to draw men on to billany, and to bying customers to your house, where you sell a lopnt of meat for twelue pence, that cost you scarce sixe: and if any chance to gos on the scoze, you scoze him when he is asleepe, and set by a groat a day more then he hath, to find you drinking pots with your companions. To be short, thou art a knaue, and I like not of any of the rest, the way lies befoze you, and therefore you may bee gone, for you shall be none of the Duck.

I smile to see Cloth-breeches so peremptorie: when I saw fine fat fellowes, all in Damaske Coates, and Coloures welked with Welnet, very byane, and in great consultation, as if they were to determine of some weighty matter. Drawing neere, I sawe they were wealthy Citizens: so I went, and reuerently saluted them, and told them how wee needed their ayde, about the appealing of a controuersie: shewing them where the Knight, Esquire, and other staped, till we might finde men to fill by the Jury: they were contented: but Welnet-breeches excepted against soure of them, and said, they were none of his friends: that was the Merchant, Goldsmith, Weaver, and Draper. His allegations were these, that they were all feathered of one wing, to fetch in young Gentlemen by com-



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commodities, vnder the colour of lending of money. For the Merchant, he deliuered the Iron, Tinne, Lead, Hoppes, Sugars, Spices, Oyles, bytowne Paper, or whatsoeuer else, from sixe moneths, to sixe moneths: which when the poore Gentleman came to sell againe, he could not make threescore and tenne in the hundred, beside the vsurie. The Merchant, hee followeth the young Vpstart Gentleman, that hath no gouernement of himselfe, and hee feedeth his humour to goe by: hee shall not want Silkes, Wattins, Veluets, to please abroad in his pompe; but with this promise, that hee must binde ouer his Land in a Statute-Merchant, or Staple: and so at last sozfelt all vnto the mercilesse Merchant, and leaue himselfe neuer a foot of ground in England; which is the reason, that for a few remnants of Veluets, and Silkes, the Merchant creepeth into whole Kingdommes. The Goldsmith is not behinde; for most of them deale with vsurie, and let young Gentlemen haue commodities of Plate, for ten in the hundred, but they must lose the fashion in selling it againe, (which cuts them so) beside, they are most of them skild in Alchimie, and can temper metals shetwoly, with no little profit to themselves, and disadvantage to the buyer: beside, puffed Kings, and quaint conceits which I omit. And so for you, Dyaper, he fetcheth them off for Liuey Cloth, and Cloth for sixe moneths and sixe: and yet hath he more knacks in his budget: for he hath so dark a shop, that no man can well chuse a piece of Cloth, it so shadowes the Dye and the Thred, a man shall bee deceiued in the Wooll and the Nappe, they cause the Clothworker so to presse them: beside, he imposeth this charge to the Cloth-worker, that hee dyaw his Cloth and pull it passing hard when he sets it vpon the Tenter, that hee may haue it full breadth and length, till thred and all teare and rent a pices: what care they for that? haue they not a Dyawer to serue their turne, to dyaw and seame vp the holes so cunningly, that it shall neuer be espied? By selfe hath scene in one broad Cloth eightene score holes to me, racht and puld by the Cloth-worker, onely to please the Dyaper, and deceiue the common-wealth. To be wozt, the Cloth-worker, what with raling and setting in a fine nap, with petwozing it and pressing it, with sheering the Wooll to the pzoofs of the thred, deale so cunningly, that they pzooue themselves the Dyapers ministers to execute his subtilties: therefore if he chance to come, let him



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bee remembred. Now, Sir, for the Wintner, he is an honest substantial man, a friend to all good fellows, and truly my friend for my money, and worthy to be of the Jury.

Why (quoth Cloth-byeerches) I am of another minde; for I hold him as deceitfull as any of the rest. What, the Wintner? why, hee is a kinde of Negro-mancer: for at midnight, when all men are in bed, then he, forsooth, falls to his charmes and spels, so that hee tumbles one Hogshead into another, and can make a cup of Claret that hath lost his colour, looke high with a dash of red wine, at his pleasure. If hee hath a strong Gascoigne wine, for feare it should make his ghefts too soone drunke, he can allay it with a small Rochel wine: he can cherish up white wine, with Wacks: and perhaps if you bid him wash the pot cleane when hee goes to draw you a Quart of Wine, hee will leane a little water in the bottome, and then draw it full of Wine. And what if he doe? 'tis no harme, wine and water is good against the heat of the Liver. It were infinite to rehearse the juggling of Wintners, the disorder of their houses, especially of the persons that frequent them: and therefore sith Beluet-byeerches hath put by the Merchant, Goldsmith, Mercer, and Draper, the Wintner shall goe with them for company. As these were going away in a snuffe, for being thus plainly taunted: wee might see a mad merry crue come leaping over the field as frolicke, as if they ought not all the world two pence: and drawing neerer, we might perceive, that either bottle-Ale or Beere had made a fray with them: for the lifting of their feet, shewed the lightnesse of their heades. The foremost was a plaine countrey Sir John, or Wicar, that proclaimed by the rednesse of his nose, he did oftner goe into the Alehouse, then the Pulpit: and him I asked what they were, and whither they were going? What are you, quoth the Priest, that stand by the high-way to examine me & my friends? here's none in my company but are able to answer for themselves. I seeing they were all set on a merry pin, told the cause, and how the controuersie grew betwixt Cloth-byeerches, and Beluet-byeerches, and that we needed them to bee of the Quest. Harry (quoth Sir John) a good motion: know, these all are my parishioners, and we haue bene drinking with a poore man, and spending our money with him; a neighbour of ours, that hath lost a Cow. Now for our names, and our Trades, this is a Smith, the se-

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cond, a Weauer; the third, a Spiller; the fourth, a Cooke; the fifth, a Carpenter; the first, a Slouer; the seventh, a Pedlar; the eight, a Liner; the ninth, a Waterbearer; the tenth, a Husbandman; the eleventh, a Dyer; and the twelfth, a Taylor, and I their Vicar. How could you, Sir, haue a fitter Iury then mee, and my Parishioners? You are a little too bzielse. qd. Cloth breeches: are you not some Puritan, or Parson, or some fellow that raiseth vp new schismes, and heresies amongst your people? A plague on them all. qd. I, Sir, for the the world was neuer in quiet: deuotion, neighbourdow, nor hospitali- ty neuer flourisheth in this Land, since such vpstart boyes, and little- witted soles became of the ministry. I cannot tell, they preach faith, faith, and say that doing of almes is Papistry: but they haue taught so long Fides solum iustificat, that they haue preached good woorkes quite out of our parish: a poore man shall as soone breake his neck as his sack, at a rich mans doore: For, my friend, I am indeed none of the best schollers; yet I can read an Homily every Sunday and Holiday, and I keep company with my neighbours, and go to the Alehouse with them: and if they be false out, spend my money to make them friends: and on Sundayes sometime, if god fellowship call me away, I say both morning and evening prayer at once, and so let them haue a whole afternoon to play in. This is my life, I spend my lining with my Parishioners: I seeke to doe all good, and I offer no man harme. Well (quoth Cloth breeches) I warrant thou art an honest Vicar, and therefore stand by, thou shalt bee one of the Quest. And for you, Smith, I see no great fault in you; you earne your li- uing with the sweat of your browes, and there can be no great kna- uerie in you: onely I would haue you to mend your life for dzink- ing, sith you are neuer at quiet, vlesse the pot be still at your nose. But you, Weauer, the Proverb puts you down for a crafty knave: you can litch, and keale, almost as ill as the Taylor: your woole, and warpe, is so cunningly dyauns out, that you plague the poore countrey huswines for their Parne, and dawbe on so much dregges, that you make it seeme both well wrought, and to beare waight: when it is slenderly wouen, and you haue stolne a quarter of it from the poore wife. Away, be packing, for you shall be cashierd. What, Spiller, shake hands with your brother the Weauer for knauerie: You can take Toll twice, and haue false hoppers to conuey away the

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the poore mans meale. Be gone, I loue not your dusky looks: and for company, Goodman Cooke, goe you with them: for you coozen the poore men, and countrey Farmers, with your filthy meat. You will buy of the worst, and cheapest. When it is bad enough for dogs, and yet so powder it, and parboyle it, that you will sell it to some honest poore men, and that vnreasonably too. If you leane any meate ouernight, you make a thift to heate it againe the next day. Nay, if on the Thursday at night there bee any left, you make Pies of it on Sunday mornings, and almost with your slouely knauerie poison the poore people. To be short, I choose you not, and therefore be walking. For the Carpenter, Glouer, and Water-bearer, the Husbandman, Dier, and Daylor, with your Trades haue but petty sleights, and you with Master Vicar, you are like to help to gine in the Verdict: but for the Pedler and the Tinker, they are two notable knaues, both of a haire, and both cousin Germans to the Diuell. For the Tinker, why, he is a brolle, batdy, drunken companion, that walkes vp and down with a trugge after him, and in stopping one hole, makes thre: and if in convenient place, hee meetes with one alone, perhaps riske him, or her, of all that euer they haue. A base knaue without feare of God, or loue to any one but to his Whore, and to himselfe. The Pedler as bad, or rather worse, walketh the Countrey with his Docksey at the least, if hee haue not too his Sports Wels, and Autem Morts: hee passeth commonly through euery paire of Stocks, either for his Drunkenesse, or his Lecherie. And beside, it is reported, you can list or nip a boung like a guire Coue, if you want pence, and that you carry your packe but for a colour to shadow your other villanies. Well, howsoeuer, you are both Knauess, and so bee fogging. Well, quoth I, suppose the Jury is almost full, I beleue wee want not aboue thre or foure persons: Look you where they come to make vp the number, and they should be men of good disposition, for they seeme to be all of the Countrey. As soone as they came to vs, I met them, and told them the matter, and they were content. The one said, he was a Grassier; the other, a Farmer; the other, a Shepherd to them both. What thinke you of these thre, quoth I? Parry, saith Heluet breeches, two of them are honest men, but the other is a base knaue: but tis no matter, shuffle him in amongst the rest.

Nay,

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Nay, by your leave (quoth Cloth breeches) I will shuffle out these  
 two, for they are the very Comozants of the Countrey, and denoure  
 the pooze people with their monstrous craction. And first I alletge  
 against the Grasser, that hee sozealleth Pastures and Meddow  
 grounds for the feeding of his Cattell, and twingeth Leases of them  
 out of pooze mens hands, and in his buying of Cattell, hee commit-  
 teth great blury, for if it prove a wet yere, then hee maketh banoke  
 and selleth deare, if it be a dry yere, then hee buyeth cheape, and yet  
 having Pasture, keepes them till he may come to his owne price: hee  
 knoweth as well as the Butcher by the feed of a Bullock, how much  
 Callow he will yeeld, what his quarters will amount unto: what  
 the Tanner will gins for the Hide: Nay, what the Wolfe-wines  
 were able to make of the inwards: so that hee sels it so deare to the  
 Butcher, that he can scarce live of it: and therefore what subtiltie the  
 Butcher useth, commeth from the Grasser, so that I exempt him from  
 the Duck as a bad member, and an ill friend to Cloth breeches. And  
 so; you, Master Farmer, you know how throughe you, cometous  
 Landlozds raise their rents: for if a pooze man have but a Plough  
 land, if you see his pastures beare good grasse, and his areable ground  
 good cozne, and that he prospereth and goeth forward on it, and prou-  
 deth and maintaineth his wife and servants honestly, then

*Invidus alterius rebus macrescit opimis,*

*Vicinumque pecus grandius vber habet.*

Then straight enny picks the Farmer forward, and he bids the  
 Landlozd farre more then the pooze man payes yearly for it: so  
 that if hee be a Tenant at will, he puts him out to beg in the street: or  
 when his Lease comes out, he over-loades him in the fine, and thus  
 bloudsucketh he the pooze of his owne private profit. Besides, the  
 base chaffe, if hee sees a forward yere, and that cozne is like to be  
 plenty, then hee murmureth against God, and sweareth and protes-  
 teth hee shall be undone: respecting more the filling of his owne cof-  
 fers by a Drarth, then the profit of his country by a generall plenty.  
 Beside, Sir, may it please you, when new cozne comes into the mar-  
 ket, who brings in to relieve the state? Not your master ship, but the  
 poore Husbandman, that wants pence. For you keepe it till the back  
 end of the yere, nay, you have your Corners which have cozne of  
 two or three yere old, upon hope still of a deare yere, rather letting

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the Weasels eat it, then the poore should haue it at any reasonable price. So that I conclude, you are a Conuoyant of the Common wealth, and a wretch that liues of the spoile of the needie, and so I leaue you to let with the Grassier. Parry for the Shepheard, vnlesse it be that he killeth a Lambe now and then, and sayes the Fox stole him, I know little craft in his Budget, therefore let him be among the honest men of the Jury.

Well, Cloth breeches (quoth I) you are very peremptory in your challenges, what say you : here come thyes or foure Cittizens, will any of these serue turne ? I cannot tell (quoth he ) till I know their names and conditions. With that I kept asoye the company, and enquired what they were : the eldest of them being a graue Cittizen, said hee was a Grocer, the rest, his good and honest neighbours, a Chandler, a Haberdasher, a Clothworker, and two strangers, one a Mallon, the other a Dutchman. How like you of these (quoth I) to Veluet Breeches ? Well enough (quoth he ) for I am little acquainted with them, yet I know they fauour me, because I haue on a Sunday seene them all in their likes. I marry (quoth Cloth breeches ) but they neuer get that bauerie with honestie : for the Clothworker, his faults were laid open, befoze when we had the Draper in question : and therefore let him be packing. For you, Chandler, I like not of your trickes, you are too conuersant with the Bitchen-Ruffe wiuers : you, after your weeks or wast is stiffened, you dip it in filthy drasse, and after giue him a coat of good Tallow, which makes the Candles droppe and waste away, to the great hinderance of the poore worke-men that watch in the night. Beside, you pinch in your waights, and haue false measures, and many other knaueries that I omit : but this be sure, you shall not meddle in my matter, neither the Haberdasher, for he trims up old Felts, and makes them very faire to the eye, and faceth and edgeth them neatly, and then hee turnes them away to such a simpleman as I am : and so abuseth vs with his coozenage. Beside, you buy gum'd Cassata, where-with you line Hats, that will craight asunder, as soone as it comes to the heate of a mans head. To bee brieife, I am not well skild in your knaueries ; but indeed you are too subtill for poore Cloth breeches : and therefore you shall be none of the Jury. Parry, the Grocer seemes an honest man, and I am content to admit of him, ouely

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take this as a cauent by the way, that you buy of the Carbellers of Spices, the refuse that they list from the Merchant, and that you mixe againe and sell it to your Customers. Besides, in your beaten Spices, as in Pepper, you put in Bay-berries, and such drosse, and so wozing the pooze: but these are sleight causes, and so I ouerpasse them, and vouchsafe you to be of the Queek. But I pray you, what be these two honest men (quoth the Grocer?) The one a Dutyman, and a Whoomaker, the other a Frenchman, and a Willainer in Saint Martins, & sells Whirts, Bands, Bracelets, Jewels, and such pretty toys for Gentlewomen. Oh they bee of Veluet-Byeeres acquaintance, Vpstarts as well as hee, that haue brought with them pride, and abuses into England: and first, to the Willainer: What toys deuileth he to feed the humoz of the vpsstart Gentleman withall, and of sond Gentlewomen, such Fannos, such Duches, such Brooches, such Bracelets, such Graundcies, such Periwigs, such Paintings, such Kusses and Cusses, as haue almost made England as full of proud sopperies as Tyre and Sidon were: there is no Jeweller can make a Band or Whirt, so well as his wife: and why forsooth? because the filthy Queane weares a Craunce, and is a Frenchwoman forsooth: whereas our English women of the Exchange are both better wozketwomen, and will affoord a better penny-woozth. And so for the drunken Dutyman, this Whoomaker, hee and such as hee is, abuseth the Common-wealth, and the pooze mechanicall men and handicrafts men of London: for our new vpsstart fooles of Veluet-byeeres fraternitie, like nothing but that the onlandish Ase maketh. They like no Whoo so well as the Dutyman maketh, when our Englishmen passe them farre. And so for Chandlers, and all other occupations, they are wozonged by the Dutch and French. And therefore sith the Commons hate them, they cannot bee my friends, and therefore let them bee launching to Flushing, for they shall bee no trayers of my controuerisie. Well (quoth I) now I suppose the Jury is full, and we see no moze conning, let vs call them, and see how many may wee haue. So they appeared to their names as foloweth:



# A Quip for

*The names of the Jury to be impanelled.*

- |                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1. Knight.      | 13. Cutler.          |
| 2. Esquire.     | 14. Plasterer.       |
| 3. Gentleman.   | 15. Saylor.          |
| 4. Priest.      | 16. Ropemaker.       |
| 5. Printer.     | 17. Smith.           |
| 6. Grocer.      | 18. Glouer.          |
| 7. Skinner.     | 19. Husbandman.      |
| 8. Dyer.        | 20. Shepheard.       |
| 9. Pewterer.    | 21. Waterman.        |
| 10. Sadler.     | 22. Waterbearer.     |
| 11. Joyner.     | 23. Bellowes-mender. |
| 12. Bricklayer. | 24. Poet.            |

What, is it not possible, quoth I, to haue one waye to make vp the four and thientie? As I was thus speaking, I spyes a farre off, a certaine kind of an ouerworne Gentleman, attired in Veluet, and Mattin, but it was somewhat dappled and greazie, and bootes on his legges, whose soles wared thin, and seemed to complaine of their Master, which treading thrist vnder his feet, had brought them vnto that consumption: hee walked not as other men, in the common beaten way, but came compassing Circumcirca, as if wee had bene diuels, and he would daine a circle about vs, and at euery third step he looked backe, as if he were afraid of a Bally o; Sergeant.

After him folloved two pert Apple-squires: the one had a Purrey cloth golowen on, faced notions befoze with gray Conny, and laid thicke on the sleeves with Lace, which hee quaintly bare vp, to shew his white Lattata hose, and blacke like Stockins, a huge ruffe about his necke: wapt on his great head like a Wicker-cage, a little Hat, with bylmines like the wings of a Donblet, whercin he wore a Jewell of glasse, as broad as the Chancery Seale. After him folloved two boyes in Cloakes like Butterflies, carrying one of them his cutting sword of choller; the other his dancing Rapier of delight. His Camerade that bare him company, was a lolly light-limber'd Jacke a Papes, in a Suite of watchet Lattata, cut to the skinne, with a Cloake all to be daubed with colour'd Lace: both hee and my golowen'd brother, seemed by their pace, as if they had some suites to Monsieur Bootes. At length comming neere, I might discern



## an Vpstart Courtier.

discerne the first to be a Poet; the second, a Player; the third, a Musitian, alias, the Master of a Dancing-schools. Well met, master Poet, quoth I, and welcome you friends also, though not so particularly knowne. So it is, though none of you thre bee Commonwealthis men, yet vpon urgent necessitis, we must bee forced to employ you. Wee haue a Jury to be impanelled immediatly, which one of you thre must helpe to make vp, euen hee which appoones himselfe the honestest man. They are all honest men, & good fellowes, qd. Heluet breeches, therefore it is no great matter whether of them we choose.

The Doctors doubt of that, quoth Cloth-breeches: for I am of a different opinion. This first, whom by his careless flowenly gate, at first sight, I imagined to be a Poet, is a waste-good, and an vnthrift; that he is boyne to make the Lauernes rich, and himselfe a Begger. If he haue forty pounds in his purse together, hee puts it not to vsurie, neither buyes Land nor Merchandies with it, but a moneths commoditie of Wenches, and Capons. Ten pound a supper. Why, 'tis nothing, if his plough goes, and his Inke-boynes be cleare. Take one of them worth twenty thousand pound, and hang him. Hee is a King of his pleasure, and counts all other Boozes and Vasaunts: that though they haue money at command, yet know not like him how to domineere with it, to any purpose as they should. But to speake plaine, I thinke him an honest man, if hee would but liue within his compasse, and generally no mans foe but his owne: therefore I hold him a man fit to bee of my Jury. Nay, quoth Heluet-breeches, I haue more minde to these two: for this Poet is a proud fellow, that because he hath a little wit in his budget, will contemne and mislike vs that are the common sort of Gentlemen, and thinke wee are beholding to him, if hee doe but bestow a faire looke vpon vs. The Player, and the Master of the Dancing-schools are plaine, honest, humble men, that for a penny, or an old cast sute of apparell, will do any thing. Quoth Clothbreeches, you say troth, they are but too humble; for they bee so lowly, that they bee base-minded; I meane, not in their lookes, nor apparell, for so they be Pearcke, and painted asses, but in their course of life: for they care not how they get crownes, I meane, how basely, so they haue them; and yet of the two, I hold the Player to be the better Christian, although he is in his owne imagination, too full of selfe-liking, and selfe lone, and is vn-

## A Quip for

fit to be of the Jury, though I hide and conceale his faults and sor-  
pries, in that I haue beene merry at his sports: onely this I must  
say, that such a plaine country-fellow as my selfe, they bying in as  
clothes and fooles to laugh at in their play, whereas they get by vs,  
and of our almes the proudest of them all doth liue. Well, to bee  
briefe, let him trot to the Stage, for he shall be none of the Jury. And  
for you master Master of the dancing schoole, you are a leader into  
all misrule; you instruct Gentlemen to order their feet, when you  
disme them to misorder their manners; you are a bad fellow, that  
stand upon your triches and capers, till you make young Gentlemen  
caper without their Lands. Why, Sir, to be flat with you, you liue  
by your legges, as a juggler by his hands: you are giuen ouer to  
the pompes and vanities of the world. And to be short, you are a ke-  
per of misrule, and a lewd fellow, and you shall bee none of the  
Quest. Why then, quoth I, you are both agreed, that the Poet is  
he that must make vp the foure and twentieth. They answered both,  
Yee, and none but he. Then I calling them all together, bade them  
lay their hands on the booke. And first, I cald the Knight, and after  
the rest, as they followed in order; then I gaue them the charge thus:

Welshipfull, Sir, with the rest of the Jury, whom we haue e-  
lected of choice honest men, whose consciences will deale bryghtly in  
this Controuersie, you and the rest of your company are heere vpon  
your oath, and oathes to inquire whether Cloth breeches haue done  
disseison vnto Velvet Breeches, yea, or no, in or about London, in  
putting him out of franke tenement, wronging him of his right by  
imbolding his credit, if you finde that Cloth breeches hath done  
Velvet Breeches wrong, then let him be set in his former estate  
and allow him reasonable dammages. Upon this they laide their  
hands vpon the Booke, and were swozne, and departed to the scru-  
tine of the offender, by inquirie amongst themselves, not stirring out  
of our sight, or staying long, but straight returned, and the Knight  
for them as the foremost, said thus: So it is, that we haue with equi-  
tie and conscience considered of this Controuersie betweene Velvet  
breeches, and Cloth breeches, as touching the prerogative of them  
both, which are most woorthy to be rightly resdent, and haue seison  
in franke tenement heere in England; and we doe finde that Cloth  
breeches is by many hundred yeeres moze ancient, euer since Brute

## an Vpstart Courtier.

an inhabitant in this Iland, and that he hath bene in Diebus illis . a companion to Kings, an equall with the Nobility, a friend to Gentlemen, and Women, and a patron of the poore, a true subiect, a good housekeeper, and generally as honest as hee is ancient : Whereas Weluet breeches is an Vpstart, come out of Italy, begot of Pride, nursed by by Selfe-loue, and brought into this country by his companion Petwofanglenesse, that he is but of late time, a raiser of rents, and an enemy in the Commonwealth, and one that is not any way to be preferred in equity befoze Cloth Breeches : therefore in generall verdict wee aduidge Cloth breeches to haue done him no wrong, but that he hath lawfully claimed his Title of franks tenement, & in that wee appoint him so; ever to bee resident. At this Verdict pronounced by the Knight, all the standers by clapt their hands, and gaue a shout : whereat I started, and awoke ; so; I was in a dzeame and in my bed, and so rose vp, and wrot in a merry daine what you haue heard.

FINIS.